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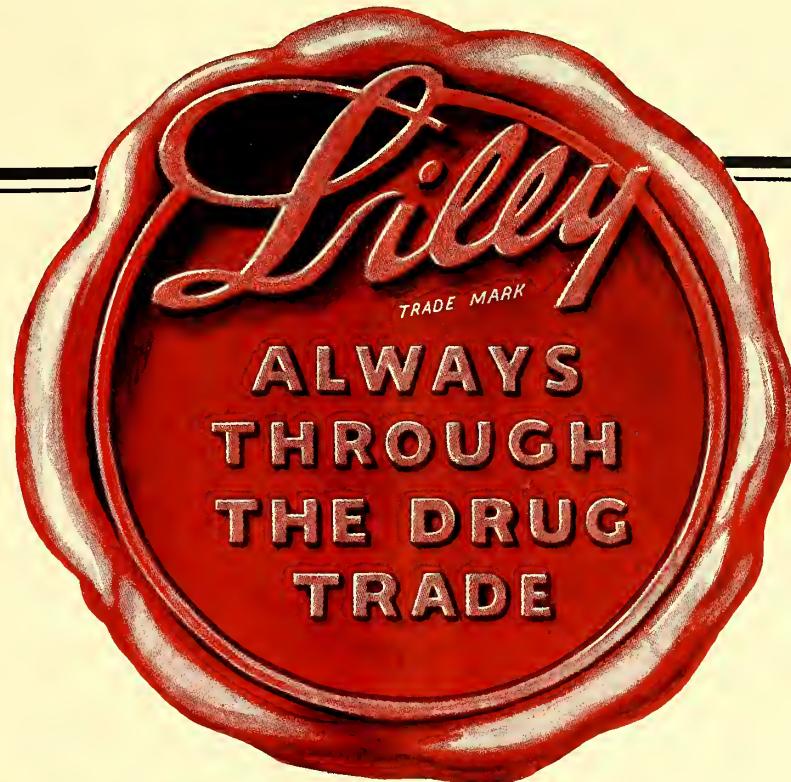
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AUGUST 26, 1939

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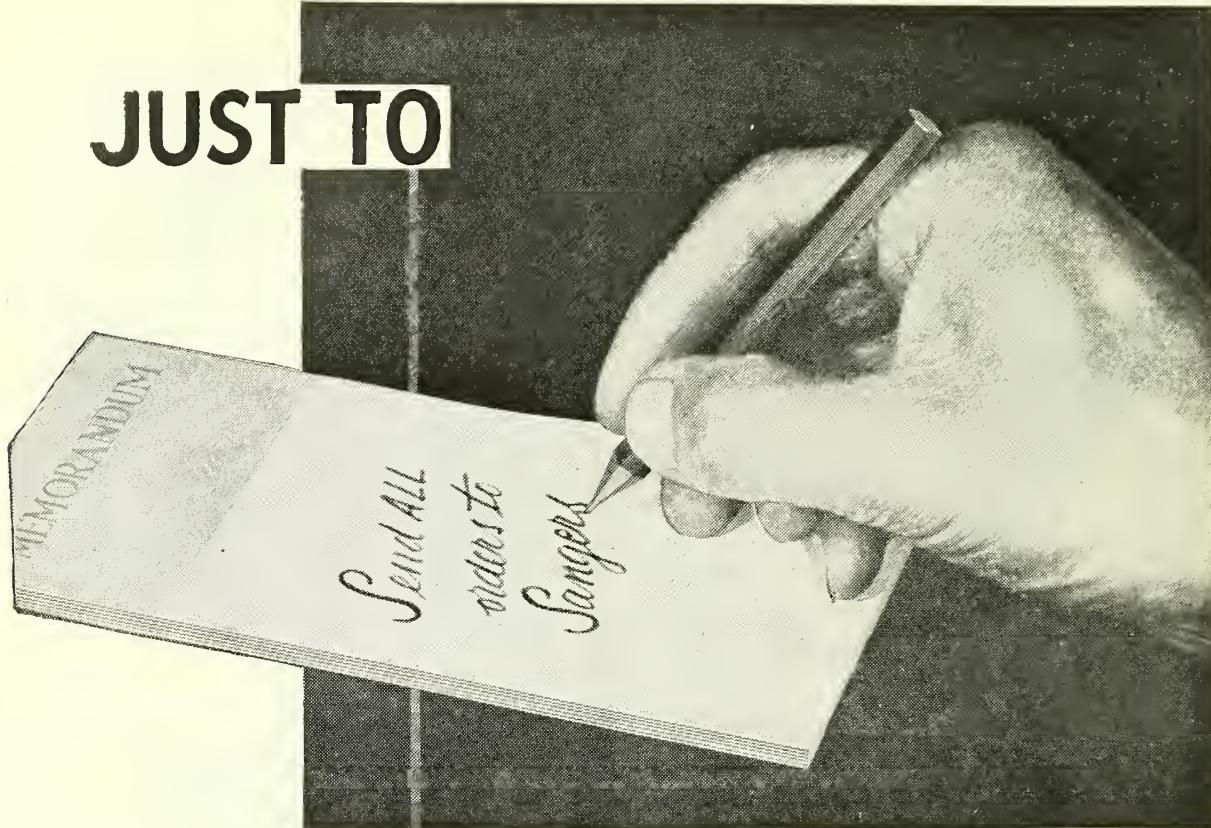
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ADMIN, the new scientific food-supplement for dogs, sold only through chemists and dog shops — assuring you new customers, regular sales and steady profit.

'Admin is news.' It is a profitable new line that will always keep moving from your shelves. 'Admin' gives dogs new health and new protection from 'deficiency' diseases. Dog owners will ask for it and will then come back time and again for a further week's supply. At the same time they will buy other lines as well.

A VITAL FOOD-SUPPLEMENT

'Admin' is neither food nor medicine. It is a *food-supplement* that supplies the essential minerals and vitamins lacking in the diet of domestic dogs—dangerously lacking in many cases. Its scientific formula is based on information from 1,600 dog owners and extensive trials carried out on nearly 400 dogs. 'Admin' is therefore a pharmaceutical line in accordance with your very high standards.

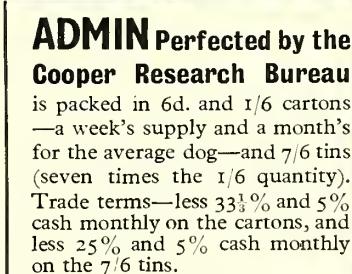
VITAMINS AND MINERAL SALTS

Each pound of 'Admin' contains 15,625 international units of vitamin A; 3,906 i.u. of vitamin D and 2,510 of vitamin B.I.; and proportional amounts of the rest of the vitamin B-complex and vitamin E. It contains also the optimum quantities and proportions of assimilable calcium, phosphorus, iron, copper, manganese and iodine. Thus 'Admin' is a valuable protection against diseases and ailments of all kinds. Taken regularly it gives dogs bounding health.



EFFECTIVE SALES AIDS

To make the most of this new development in dog welfare arrange a special dog counter with attractive 'Admin' packages and booklets. These booklets explaining graphically a dog's nutritional needs are of absorbing interest to dog owners. The dog counter, too, will show that you take an interest in dogs, and you will thus secure a large number of dog owners as regular and profitable customers.



P.S. The Cooper Health Routine devised by the Cooper Research Bureau is more effective still with 'Admin.' The soundest advice is to give Pulvex once a week to blot out the dog flea and all flea-borne parasites and so to minimise the risk of tape worm infection; and to give 'Admin' every day to look after the rest. At the moment most of the announcements in dog papers are spreading the good news of 'Admin,' but Pulvex will soon be back in the limelight again.



Invitation

COTY ANNOUNCE PROVINCIAL SHOWROOM DATES FOR NEW CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE

Coty have pleasure in announcing to dealers a wide range of Christmas lines and novelties, as well as a new selection of special Autumn lines. You are cordially invited to visit any of the Showrooms listed below. Those of you living in, or visiting, London will be warmly welcomed at Coty House, 3, Stratford Place, W.1, where you will find a full selection of Autumn and Christmas presentations, and the very latest and most original ideas for your window displays, awaiting your inspection.

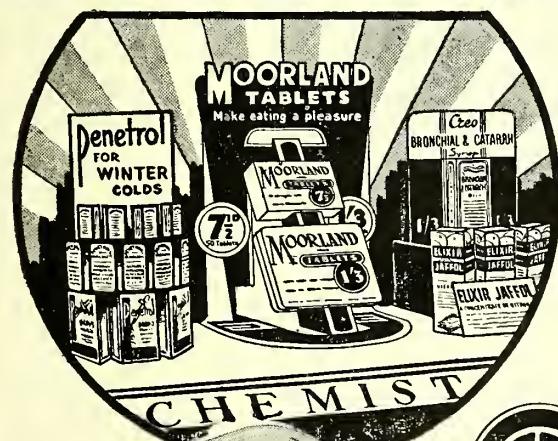
Where to see Coty's Christmas show

TOWN	HOTEL	DATES	REPRESENTATIVE
LIVERPOOL	Adelphi Hotel	Aug. 28	L. A. Bullen
GLASGOW	St. Enoch Hotel	Sept. 1	A. McConnochie
BRADFORD	Midland Hotel	28 Aug., 30 Sept.	M. W. Dunne
MANCHESTER	Midland Hotel	4	G. Howells
LEEDS	Gt. Northern Hotel	4	M. W. Dunne
NEWCASTLE	Station Hotel	12	M. W. Dunne
BIRMINGHAM	Queen's Hotel	11	A. C. E. Revell
BELFAST	Gt. Central Hotel	11	L. A. Bullen
COVENTRY	King's Head Hotel	18	A. C. E. Revell
ABERDEEN	Palace Hotel	18	A. McConnochie
HULL	Station Hotel	18	M. W. Dunne
LEICESTER	Bell Hotel	19	C. W. Hellary
EDINBURGH	N. British Hotel	25	A. McConnochie
PLYMOUTH	Westminster Hotel	26	W. H. Scorey
NOTTINGHAM	Victoria Station Hotel	Oct. 2	W. N. Potter
CARDIFF	Royal Hotel	2	J. Flook
BRIGHTON	Metropole Hotel	2	F. Widocks
PERTH	Salutation Hotel	2 only	A. McConnochie
DUNDEE	Royal British Hotel	3	A. McConnochie
SOUTHAMPTON	Royal Hotel	3	W. H. Scorey
SOUTHEND	Palace Hotel	5	C. W. Hellary
BRISTOL	Grand Hotel	10	J. Flook
SOUTHSEA	Royal Pier Hotel	10	F. Widocks
BOURNEMOUTH	Grand Hotel	16	W. H. Scorey
SWANSEA	Metropole Hotel	17	J. Flook
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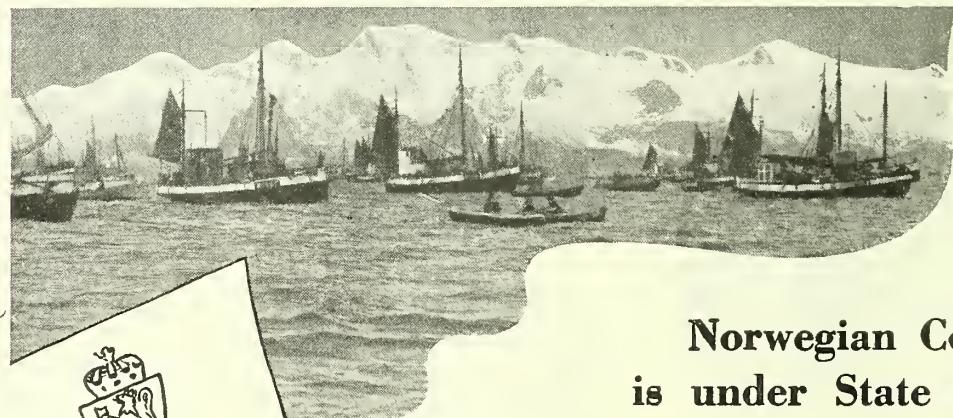
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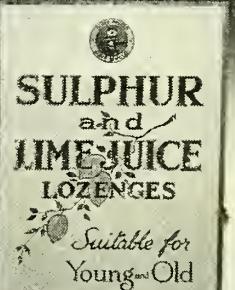


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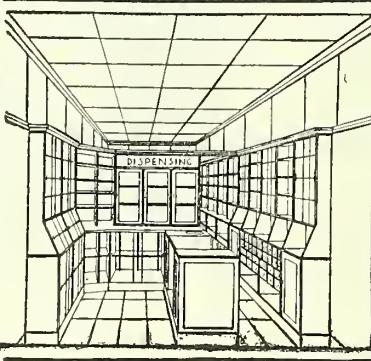
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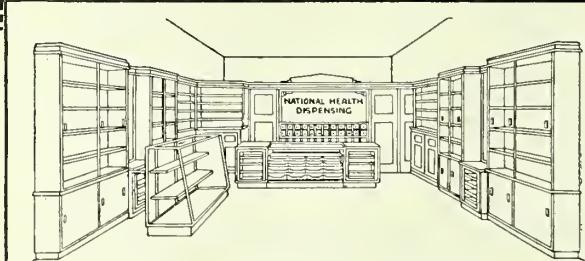
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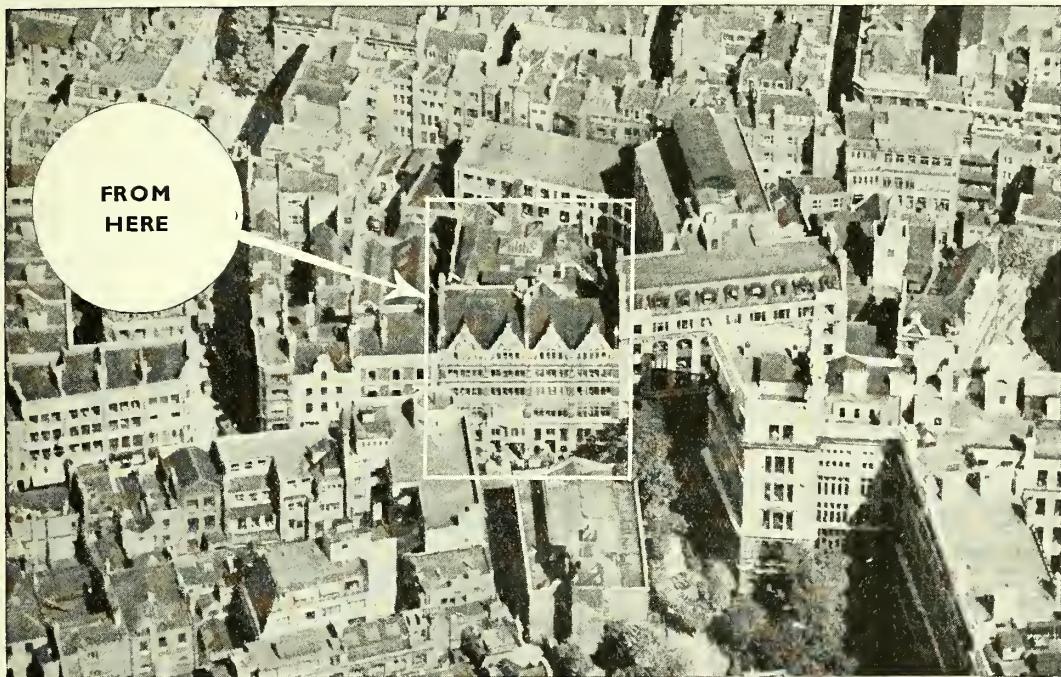
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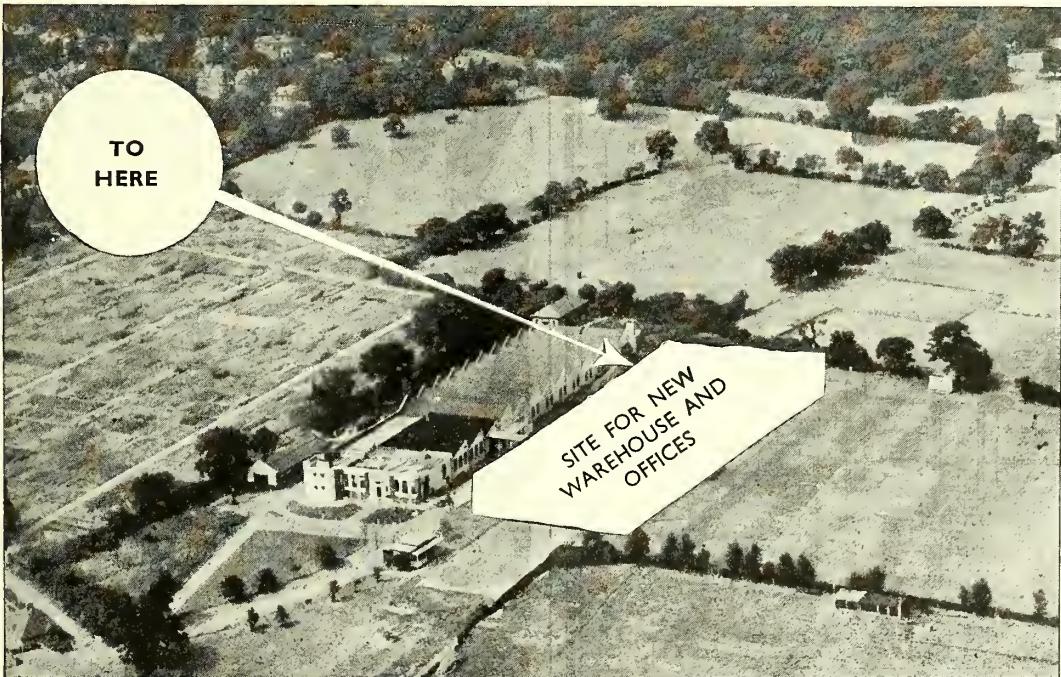
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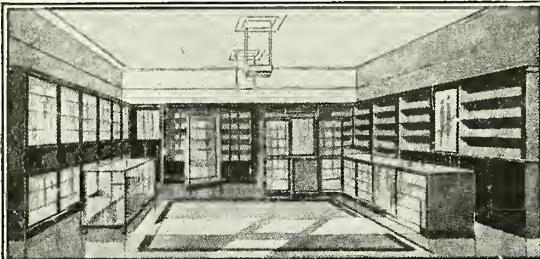


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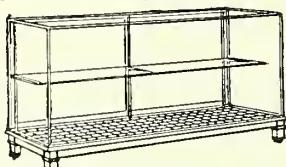


To Maw's Estate at New Barnet, in the London Area. Only eleven miles from London Bridge, it is adjacent to the Green Belt, which is seen in the background of the illustration.

KING'S
FOR
SHOPFITTINGS



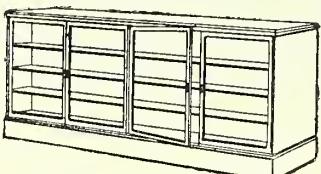
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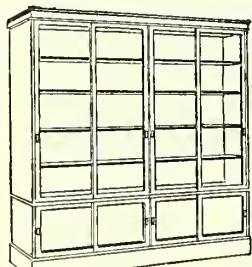
Oak or mahogany frame glass counters from £6.15.0.



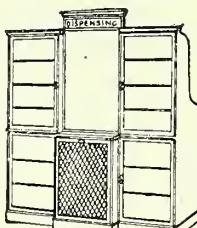
Silent salesman showcase. Oak or mahogany frame, from £9.0.0.



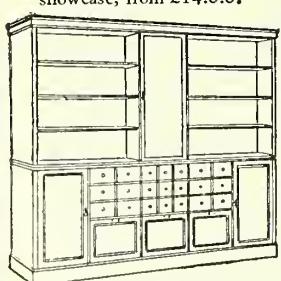
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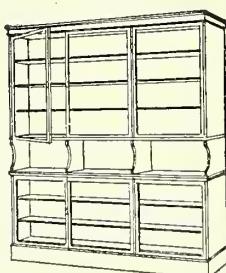
Oak or mahogany frame wall showcase, from £14.0.0.



Dispensing screen with an oak or mahogany frame, from £15.0.0.



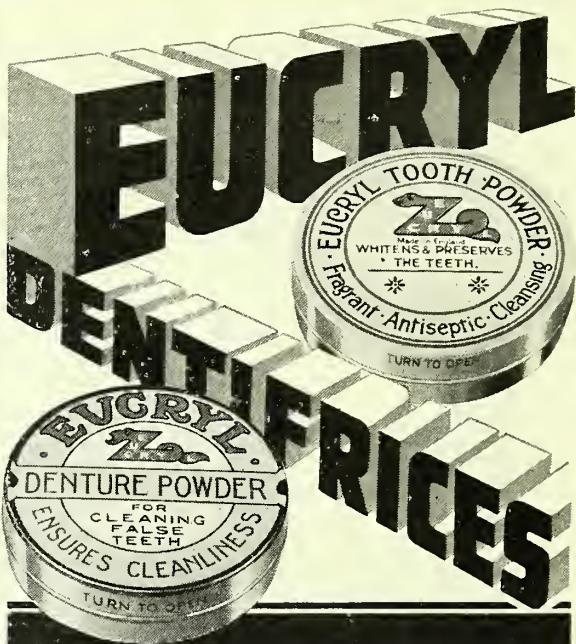
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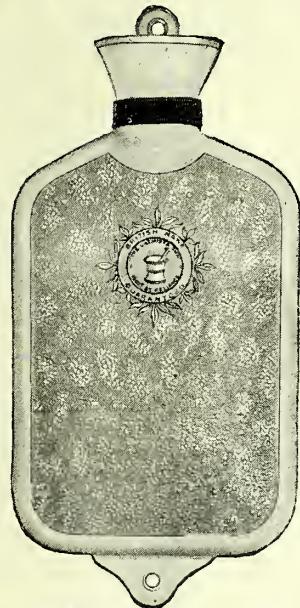
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THE "CHEMISTS' OWN"

Hot Water Bottle



There is no better value anywhere, and these 4 reasons tell why you should consider our No. 911 "Chemists' Own" hot water bottle—

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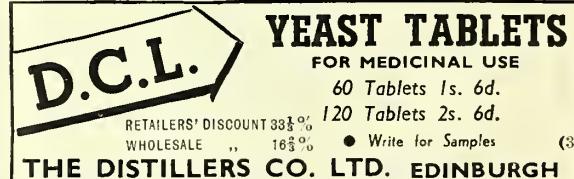
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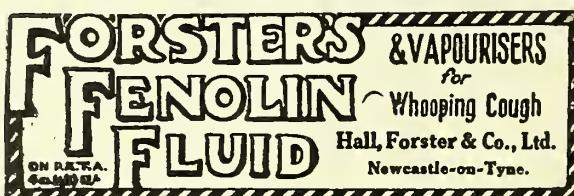
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The following varieties of 3d. pills will be packed at customers' request in the new 3d. pill display container.

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- Back and Kidney
- Backease and Kidney
- Bile and Liver
- Bile and Stomach (Black)
- Blood and Stomach
- Bile Pills
- Castor Oil
- Celery (12 pills)
- Chest and Lung
- Compound Rhubarb
- Dandelion and Camomile
- Digestive

- These varieties may only be sold in Great Britain by a Chemist or registered apprentice under P.J.F. restrictions.



SPECIAL OFFER!
THIS DISPLAY CONTAINER
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OF ONE GROSS ASSORTED PILLS
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3d. boxes containing 18 pills
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12 DOZ. 1/3 per doz.

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- Neuralgia Red Clover, Sarsaparilla and Burdock (15 pills)
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- HEAD & STOMACH
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These boxes are extracted with perfect ease from the opening clearly shown in the photograph.

Refills for these containers are sent out in rolls containing 1 dozen boxes, each roll including a label which can be affixed to the container if desired in place of the ones already on the display container. Please order distinctly as REFILLS, otherwise the ordinary style of packing will be sent.

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Each stand takes up little space (measuring approx. 10" x 6") and will prove a real sales attraction.

SEND TO US for your display units NOW.

F. C. CALVERT & CO. LTD.
Gibson Street
MANCHESTER, 11

now offer YOU these two attractive counter display stands to enable you to maintain those marvellously increased sales.

The new 1/- Screw Top Moulded Container for Calverts Carbolic Tooth Powder has, thanks to your splendid support, proved an even greater success than we anticipated. It is now enjoying record sales and to enable you to maintain this level we offer these two attractive counter display stands.

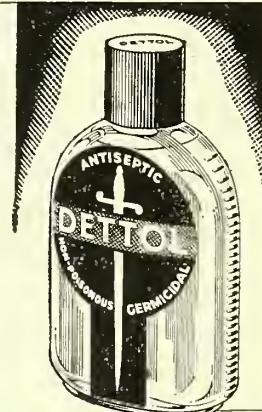
National press advertising will continue on a new theme—"Calvert's for carefree teeth" and thus link up with these display stands on your counter.

CALVERTS
"for carefree teeth"
(AND FOR CAREFREE SALES !!!)



THE POPULARITY OF 'DETTOL'

With so many remarkable properties the popularity of 'Dettol' is hardly surprising; for it combines all the qualities that can be asked of a modern antiseptic. The Rideal Walker test shows 'Dettol' to be three times more effective than pure carbolic acid; yet it is gentle to human tissue, non-poisonous, and non-staining. It can be used at really effective strengths without danger or discomfort, and it preserves its high bactericidal efficiency in the presence of blood, pus and other organic matter. Moreover 'Dettol' is a clean, clear fluid delightful to use, with a distinctly pleasant smell.



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(Acetylsalicylic Acid)

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Bottles of 25, at 10/- doz.,
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Also available, 0.5 gm.

'TABLOID' 'EMPIRIN' COMPOUND
'TABLOID' 'EMPIRIN' COMPOUND
WITH CODEINE
'TABLOID' 'EMPIRIN' AND CAFFEINE
'TABLOID' 'EMPIRIN' AND DOVER POWDER
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Bottles of 25, at 15/- doz.,
100, at 45/- doz. bottles

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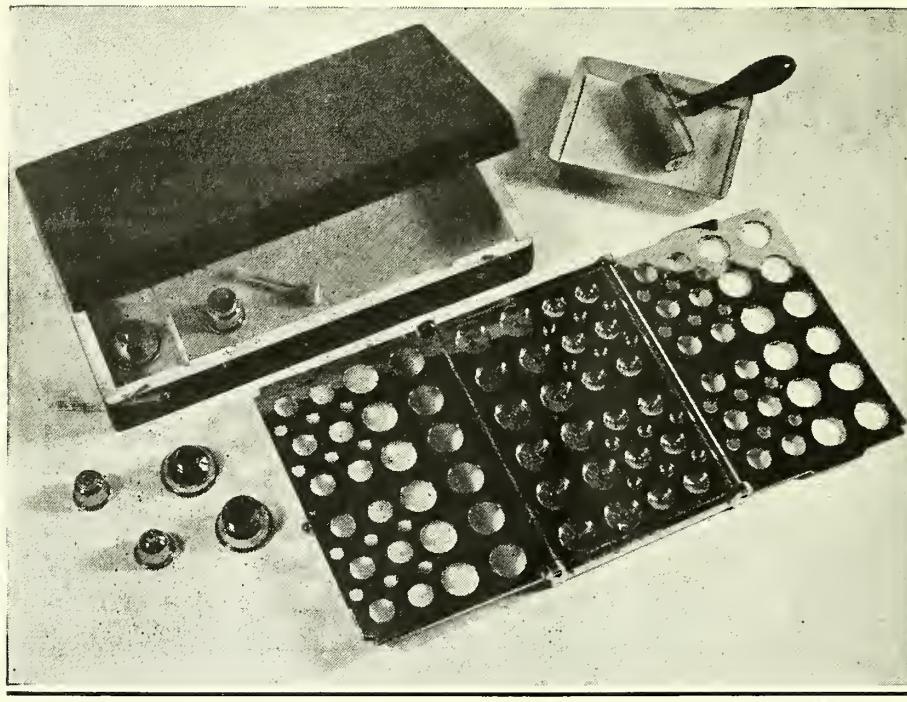
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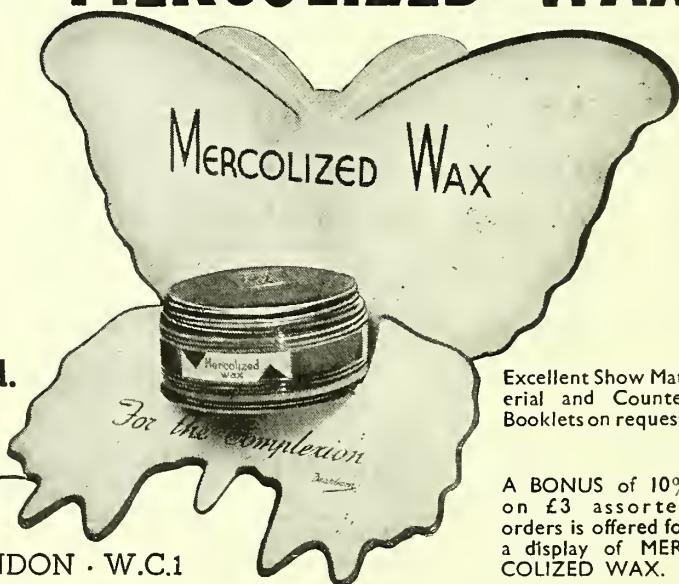
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News of the Week

Business Changes

MR. H. D. JOHNSTON, M.P.S., has opened a business at 169 Crown Street, Glasgow, C.5.

TIMOTHY WHITES & TAYLORS, LTD., are opening a branch pharmacy at Porchester, Fareham.

MR. J. HADFIELD, M.P.S., 41 Holbrook Road, Leicester, has opened a pharmacy at Allandale Road, Evington.

THE BRITISH ALUMINIUM CO., LTD., will be removing their head office from Adelaide House, King William Street, London, E.C.4, to Norfolk House, St. James's Square, S.W.1, as from September 18. Telephone: Whitehall 7822.

H. E. DE CARLE, LTD., wholesale and retail chemists, 9 St. Augustine's Street, Norwich, have taken over the goodwill and stock of De Carle & Son (Norwich), Ltd., and will continue their manufacturing and wholesale business as from August 21.

Import Duties Exemption

An Import Duties (Exemptions) Order has been issued which provides that certain goods shall be admitted into the United Kingdom free of duty from all sources while the United Kingdom-India Trade Agreement continues in force. The goods listed include shellac, seed lac, stick lac, and other varieties of these lacs; raw jute; myrobalans; broken rice; mica slabs and splittings; hemp of the variety *Crotalaria juncea* not further dressed after scutching or decorticating; tow of such variety of hemp. The Order is operative from August 15. Copies may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, price 1d.

Import Duties Drawback Withdrawal

Orders have been issued by the Treasury Department providing for the amendment of certain of the linseed drawback schemes made under Section 9 of the Finance Act, 1932. The effect of the Orders is to withdraw the allowance of drawback in respect of linseed used in the manufacture of certain goods, such as mixed oils, paints, linoleum, etc., and thereby limit the allowance of drawback in respect of linseed to the quantity used in the manufacture of linseed oil not mixed with any substance other than driers; and to reduce the rate of drawback in respect of linseed used in the manufacture of unmixed linseed oil. Copies may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 1d.

Key Industry Duty Representations

Representations have been made to the Board of Trade under Section 10 (5) of the Finance Act, 1926 (the Section dealing with representations for exemption), regarding CYCLOHEXYLAMINE and META-KYLENE. Any communications regarding the proposed exemptions should be addressed to the Principal Assistant Secretary, Industries and Manufactures Department,

Board of Trade, Great George Street, London, S.W.1, before September 13.

Dangerous Drugs Acts, 1920 to 1932

(From "The London Gazette," August 18, 1939)

WITHDRAWAL OF AUTHORITIES

(ALFRED JOHN BECKETT)

Whereas Alfred John Beckett, M.B., B.Ch., 1923, U.Dubl., whose registered address is Brynhyfryd, Kidwelly, Carmarthen, has been convicted of an offence against the Dangerous Drugs Acts, 1920 to 1932:

And whereas the said Alfred John Beckett cannot, in my opinion, properly be allowed to be in possession of or to supply any drug or preparation to which the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1937, or any drug to which the Raw Opium, etc., Regulations, 1937, apply:

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the powers conferred on me by Regulation 7 of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1937, and by Regulation 5 of the Raw Opium, etc., Regulations, 1937, I hereby withdraw from the said Alfred John Beckett the authorities conferred by the said Regulations upon him to be in possession of and to supply the drugs or preparations to which the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1937, and the drugs to which the Raw Opium, etc., Regulations, 1937, apply:

And I hereby direct that it shall not be lawful for the said Alfred John Beckett to give prescriptions for the purposes of the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1937.

SAMUEL HOARE,
One of His Majesty's Principal
Secretaries of State.

Home Office, Whitehall.

August 18, 1939.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association

ADDITIONS.—*Bayer Products, Ltd.*, Betaxan elixir, 4s. 9d., 38s. doz., less 2½ per cent. by 15th of the month following delivery. *Bourjois, Ltd.*, "Evening in Paris" perfume in bakelite box, No. 6,393. 2s. 6d., 20s. doz. Supplies of this size will be available on and after September 1, when the present 3s. 6d. size, No. 1,296, will be withdrawn from the Protected List.

ALTERATIONS.—*Anzora Perfumery Co., Ltd.* Prices in Eire: Anzora cream and Anzora Viola, 1s., 8s. doz., Anzora cream and Anzora Viola, 1s. 6d., 12s. doz., less 5 per cent. on 30s. parcels, 10 per cent. on 50s.

DELETIONS.—*F. C. Calvert & Co., Ltd.*, Calvert's tooth-powder, paste, ointment, toilet soap, Dentophenolene.

CONTENTS

See p. 249

Sporting Events

MERSEYSIDE.—Nearly twenty players took part in the golf competition held under the auspices of the golfing section of the Birkenhead and Wirral Pharmacists' Association at Hoylake on August 17. The prize for the best net scores of the day went to F. Mellor, with 75. The runners up were G. Hale, net score 79; N. Shipley, 81; and F. Haworth, 81.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM CHEMISTS' GOLFING SOCIETY competition for The British Drug Houses cup and representatives' tankard was held recently on the Brancepeth Castle course, when there were 22 entries. Mr. W. M. Oakley won the tankard with a score of 80-5=75 net, and Mr. C. G. Preston, returning 89-12=77 net, won the cup.

Inquest

At an inquest at Cromer Hospital, on August 15, concerning the death of a woman who had been given an injection of morphine solution instead of a local anaesthetic, a question was raised as to the colour of the bottles in which drugs are supplied. Dr. E. C. Wynne-Edwards said the mistake was due to the bottles being of similar colour. Sister Beryl Sanderson said she knew the local anaesthetic was kept in a bottle, and went to the cupboard for it. She did not look at the label, and as it was the only bottle there she took it, believing it to be the local anaesthetic. In hospitals where she had served previously morphine solution was kept in a green bottle with a red label. Mr. R. B. Fawkes, who represented the medical staff, said the tragedy was that both bottles were not in the cupboard. He thought the hospital management committee would draw the attention of the drug company to the fact that the two drugs were put in the same coloured bottles of similar size. The coroner said the primary cause of death seemed to be due to the fact that the drugs were placed by wholesalers in similar bottles. The verdict was "Death from hypostatic pneumonia, which was accelerated by the accidental administration of morphia in place of a local anaesthetic." The jury recommended that morphine should be issued in bottles distinguishable from those containing other drugs. Dr. Fawkes said the committee would take immediate steps to see that bottles of morphine would be distinctive in size and colour from bottles containing other drugs.

Liverpool

MR. HAROLD LOMAX, M.P.S., Derby Buildings, has recently returned from a short holiday cruise to Havre.

MR. W. J. TRISTRAM, M.P.S., Whitechapel, is touring Helsingfors and Copenhagen. He was recently elected to the directorate of the South Liverpool Football Club.

CATHOLIC PHARMACEUTICAL GUILD.—A meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Catholic Pharmaceutical Guild will be held at 152 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, on Sunday, August 27, at 3.30 p.m.

SUNDAY OPENING.—Several Liverpool chemists who have lock-up shops, particularly in the central area, have been showing a tendency to disown Sunday opening on the ground that there is no demand for the service. It is believed that in cases where urgent prescriptions have to be made up, they can easily be obtained from chemists who reside on the premises. Two or three chemists have now given notice to their customers that after the end of this month their shops will be closed on Sundays.

London

At the Old Street Police Court, on August 22, Benjamin Lipman, Harry Sovitch and Morris Kremen were charged on remand with being concerned together in breaking and entering a shop at 391 Mile End Road, Stepney, and stealing sixty cameras and other articles, value £485, the property of A. & N. Catto, Ltd. (C. & D., August 12, p. 178). Lipman and Sovitch were further charged with being concerned together in receiving part of the property stolen from 391 Mile End Road. Mr. E. G. B. Taylor, prosecuting, asked that the charge against the three men be reduced from one of breaking and entering to one of larceny, and the magistrate concurred. A further remand was ordered.

RADIOLYMPIA.—As a prelude to the Wireless Exhibition, which opened at Olympia, London, W.14, on August 23, a Press party was entertained in the radio "bowl" theatre of

the Exhibition by the Radio Manufacturers' Association on August 21 to witness the final selection of Miss Radiolympia 1939. Ten semi-finalists for this title paraded before a distinguished panel of judges, including stage and radio celebrities, and nine sang their version of the Radiolympia theme song. The tenth, Miss Patsy Kench, who had declined to sing the song, was chosen for the title. Within a few minutes of being selected Miss Kench was given a rapid make-up by one of Max Factor's beauty experts, was introduced to radio listeners by Mr. Lionel Gamlin, B.B.C. compère, and was televised. Radiolympia 1939, is the fourteenth national radio exhibition to be held in London, and the Exhibition has grown steadily during recent years until it now occupies both the Grand Hall and the National Hall at Olympia. The Exhibition is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily and continues until Saturday, September 2.

Luton

VISIT TO HORLICK'S FACTORY.—Members of the Bedfordshire Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, the Luton Chemists' Cricket Club and their friends, visited the works of Horlick's Malted Milk Co., Ltd., Slough, on August 16. The weather was all that could be desired, and a cricket match was arranged for the afternoon between the Luton Chemists' Club and the Horlick's XI. While this was in progress the remainder of the party was escorted over the works. Starting from the top floor, where the barley was malted, they had the various processes explained to them. The laboratories, filling and packing room provided much to interest the party. Tea was provided, after which Mr. T. Austin, chairman of the Luton Chemists' Cricket Club, thanked the company for their hospitality. Although this was the first visit of their club to this factory, he said he would like it to become an annual event. Mr. H. W. S. Wynter, vice-president of the Branch, also spoke on behalf of the Branch in support of Mr. Austin's remarks. Mr. W. R. Bowden, captain of the Horlick's team and home sales manager, replied on behalf of the company. Each visitor was presented with a parcel containing Horlick's products, after which the party adjourned to the cricket field to watch the remainder of the match.

Manchester

GOLF.—The Manchester Pharmaceutical Golfing Society held a competition for a prize presented by E. Griffiths Hughes, Ltd., at Hazel Grove Golf Club on August 16. The competition was against bogey. Mr. O. W. Smart (2 up) won the Griffiths Hughes prize. Messrs. J. H. Franklin, R. McGarrol, W. E. Phillipson, and J. H. Taylor, each with a return of 4 down, tied for the second prize. Mr. W. Coulter (director) represented the company.



WINDOW OF BLAKELY PHARMACIES, LTD., WITHINGTON, WINNER OF SECOND PRIZE IN THE *Daily Mail* "SHOW AND SELL" CONTEST

INQUIRY.—At an inquiry concerning the death of Mr. Alan James Drinkwater, M.P.S., Reddish Lane, Gorton, on August 16, a verdict was recorded of "Suicide whilst the balance of his mind was disturbed." Mr. Drinkwater's father, in evidence, stated that his son had been in business for himself for fourteen years, and the business was flourishing. He

had recently complained of painful dyspepsia and nervous trouble, but had never shown any signs of worry or anxiety about himself.

Miscellaneous

ANTI-GAS PROTECTION OF BABIES.—The A.R.P. Department of the Home Office has issued a booklet on "Anti-gas Protection of Babies and Young Children" (H.M. Stationery Office, 1d.).

A.R.P. FIRST-AID EXAMINATION.—Thirty-eight Portsmouth chemists have passed the local examination held by St. John Ambulance Brigade for instructors in A.R.P. and first aid for A.R.P. Out of a total of fifty candidates, twenty-eight of the successful chemists were awarded Grade 1 certificates and eight Grade 2.

ISLE OF MAN SUNDAY TRADING ACT.—The Bill for legalising the Sunday sales of certain articles in the Isle of Man during the summer (*C. & D.*, May 13, p. 513) has received the Royal Assent and has been put into operation. It allows various goods sold by confectioners to be on sale all day on Easter Sunday and all Sundays between Whitsuntide and September 30; but tobacco, films, picture postcards and newspapers may only be sold up to 1 p.m. The Act makes it incumbent on all tradesmen who open to display notices inside and outside their shops, stating that the premises are only open for the sales of such goods as are permitted; that all goods which may not be legally sold must be effectively hidden from the public view; and that holidays according to the hours worked must be given to the assistants in compensation for Sunday labour. Most of the chemists now open only for two hours in the evening of Sunday.

Irish Notes

Miscellaneous

GOLF.—The Irish Chemists' Golfing Society will hold its next outing on Sunday, September 3, at Newlands Golf Club, Clondalkin, co. Dublin. Competitions will be held for trophies presented by May Roberts (Ireland), Ltd., and A. de St. Dalmas, Ltd.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIR THOMAS McMULLAN.—At a meeting of Bangor Corporation, on August 16, the Mayor congratulated the Council and the borough on the well-deserved honour conferred on Sir Thomas McMullan, a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland, in being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for county Down. The Council and people of Bangor appreciated deeply, he said, the splendid service Sir Thomas McMullan rendered in many capacities. He moved that a letter of congratulation be forwarded to Sir Thomas. The proposal was cordially passed.

INQUEST.—An inquest was held in Purdysburn Fever Hospital, co. Down, on August 18, concerning the death of Samuel Beattie, aged seventeen months, who died from bronchial pneumonia. It appeared from the evidence that a nurse, who had prepared a mixture of castor oil three drachms and tincture of opium 20 minims, intended for an adult patient, in mistake gave the draught to the child. Dr. Kane said the child had a "fifty-fifty" chance of recovery from the pneumonia, but the draught had aggravated its death. A verdict was given in accordance with the medical evidence.

Topical Reflections

By Xrayser

Pharmacies Overseas

The descriptions and illustrations of pharmacies on p. 219 and pp. 230-32 of your last week's issue bring clearly before your readers many salient features of pharmacy in Canada, Denmark, the United States, and China. We do not, as they do in Peking, adorn our premises with such titles as "Bright Benevolent Hall" or "Harmonious Mercy Hall," though the former title might be appropriate where much National Health Insurance dispensing is done. Nor do we, as they do in Denmark, fix an age limit for ownership of pharmacies. With State control and a measure of financial security in that country goes a day-and-night service—a matter that advocates of compulsory limitation of shops in this country may well take into consideration. Pharmacy in Canada has, it appears, largely the same kinds of enemies to contend with as pharmacies in this country. Need I specify them? Bachelors of Pharmacy must be proportionately more numerous there than here; yet the contributor of the informative article on Canadian pharmacy writes, apropos of profit on turnover: "Where or how can new lines be found?" I am sorry to read his observation that "the art of dispensing is in danger of passing from the picture." It is pleasant to turn to the representation of old bottles in a museum at Alexandria, Virginia, derived from a United States apothecary's shop founded in 1792. To understanding eyes such bottles are eloquent of work done and dispensing problems solved. The varieties of stopper and label distinguishable suggest that the shop was not without its occasional accidents. The labels are of special interest because of their average width being greater than was usual in this country at comparable dates. As I do not know whether bottles of these types were made on the other side of the Atlantic in the eighteenth century, I cannot hazard a guess whether the labels are, as a rule, of the same periods as the bottles to which they belong; but I suspect that some of them are home-made.

Old Recipe Books

The entertaining passages from an old recipe book quoted by Miss Agnes L. Wyatt on p. 223 raise, incidentally, the question whether it is worth while for someone with the requisite knowledge and leisure to undertake the collation of a selected number of such manuscript books, covering as long a

period as possible, and having done that to attempt some kind of classification of the recipes found. There is ample material for the task in our national and university collections. I was looking, a few days ago, through two manuscripts comprising recipes, one dating from the fifteenth century and the other from the sixteenth. The phonetic spellings (not always consistent) of many words cannot fail to afford entertainment to the explorer, and this feature may, with suitable annotation, be passed on to the readers. "Boyle them wele in gode mylk and suppe it warme" is fairly easy, but "drynk y of thre days and sall be hale" is more difficult; and the stains often found on manuscripts may render the deciphering of important words conjectural. While the desired expert is transcribing and arranging the material, I should like an attack made on the problem of the relation of such collections to prescriptions left in writing by medical men. Did the layman copy from the recognised medical practitioner? Or the practitioner, on occasion, from the layman? Or had both a common source? And to what extent were these recipes traditional—copies or adaptations from Galen, for instance?

An Ancient Virtue

Am I doing members of the younger generation an injustice when I suggest that some of them, on reading the heading "The Virtue of Tidiness" on p. 229, will vote it boring and will put the page aside while they sally forth on an attempt to break a speed record of some kind? But tidiness, if an ancient and homely virtue, is not an obsolete one. I have seen, on the one hand, the work of a pharmacist at the front counter marked by a trail of bottles, measures, scraps of paper, and drawers incompletely closed; and, on the other hand, a pharmacist meticulous in replacing any article found slightly away from the spot assigned to it. There is no doubt as to which type is the more comfortable to work with. Your contributor's remarks are very just, and his incident of the misplaced celery seed reinforces his contentions. I may add to his advice on the sweeping of the pavement bordering the shop that one's own staff can do the work with far less raising of dust than the average municipal worker. I think it is fair (if I may attempt to summarise his observations in a single sentence) to say that system is to be cultivated so long as it saves work, but not when it is found to make work.

Legal Reports

Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act.—At Southport Police Court, on August 18, Taylors (Cash Chemists) London, Ltd., Station Road, Ainsdale, were fined 10s. in respect of each of two summonses. It was stated that a Shops Act inspector visited the premises on July 16, and saw an assistant serve a customer with a stick of shaving soap. Mr. A. V. Cunliffe said that on the day in question the manager was a temporary relief manager, who had not made himself familiar with what orders were in force in Southport.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.—At Bow Street Police Court, London, on August 17, Regent Chemists, Ltd., 70 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1, were summoned by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain for having, at the Regent Palace Hotel, not being an authorised seller of poisons, unlawfully sold by retail a poison contained in Part I of the Poisons List, contrary to Section 18 (1) (a) (i) of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933. There was a further summons which alleged that the sale had not been effected by or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. Mr. E. McManus appeared for the Society, and Regent Chemists, Ltd., were represented by Mr. R. L. Parry.

Mr. McManus said that defendant company had a large number of shops in the West End. On the evening of June 30 an agent of the Society went to their branch at the Regent Palace Hotel and, among other things, purchased a bottle of White's brand Q.B.C., which contained tincture of belladonna. It was found that the person who sold it was not a qualified assistant. The Magistrate: You are saying that Messrs. Regent Chemists are not authorised sellers?—Mr. McManus: Yes, sir. Mr. John Cecil Coombes gave evidence of purchase.

Mr. Parry said that the defendants pleaded guilty to the summons alleging that the sale was not made by or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. In the other case he submitted that there was no evidence on which the Court could convict. He agreed that the sale in itself was wrong, but the company had complied with all the other requirements of the Act. There was supervision by a qualified man, and there was a registered pharmacist in control of the branch. The matter had been decided in the Divisional Court, and every judge who had had to deal with the old Act had interpreted the meaning of the phrase "*bona-fide* conducted" as equal to "personally managed." The Magistrate: The new Act was passed to try to stiffen up the law. Mr. Parry: The Courts have held that one sale when the manager is not at the shop does not mean that you cease to be an authorised seller. Counsel went on to quote from judgments given in Divisional Court cases, including that of the *Hygienic Stores v. Coombes*.

Mr. McManus contended that it was a question of degree in this case as to whether there had been sufficient control, when no registered pharmacist was present at the shop in the evenings. He submitted that in the circumstances the Act had not been complied with. The Magistrate: I don't think the words "personal control" in the Act mean that nothing must ever be done at the premises without a registered pharmacist being present. I have come to the conclusion that it has not been proved that the defendants are not authorised sellers, and I am going to dismiss the first summons. Mr. Parry said the sale was due to an error of a servant, who had quite voluntarily admitted that the mistake was deliberate, in the hope of boosting up his sales. There was no dispensary at the kiosk. The company had a private telephone line to their shop in Piccadilly, where three qualified chemists were engaged. The company had done all they reasonably could. He asked the magistrate to hold that the moral turpitude on the part of the company was *nil*. The magistrate: I won't say that moral turpitude comes into it. The employers have taken a good deal of trouble to see that the system works properly; if it goes wrong they cannot divest themselves of the responsibility. On the second summons the company were fined £5 and ordered to pay £5 5s. costs. The magistrate ordered the Pharmaceutical Society to pay £5 5s. costs to the defendants on the first summons, which he had dismissed. Mr. McManus said he was going to ask for a case to be stated for the decision of the Divisional Court on the first summons. The Magistrate: Is there any new point to litigate? It is not fair to the High Court to send up a second case on the same point. Mr. McManus said he would take instructions on the question.

Company News

P.C. means Private Company and R.O. Registered Office

IDEAL HEALTH, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, drugs, medicines, diets, patent medicines, proprietary articles, etc. First directors to be appointed. Solicitors: Kenneth Brown, Baker, Baker, Essex House, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

R. A. BELL & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £2,000. Objects: To acquire the chemists' and druggists' business now carried on by Robert A. Bell and Wilfred Stocks as "R. A. Bell" at Brook's Yard, Market Street, Huddersfield. Permanent directors: Robert A. Bell and Wilfred Stocks. R.O.: Brook's Yard, Market Street, Huddersfield.

UNION JACK PASTE CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Objects: To acquire the business of patent-medicine vendors and proprietors carried on by W. S. Galloway and Fanny C. Galloway at Brooklyn Road, Seaford, Sussex. Permanent directors: Walter S. Galloway and Mrs. Fanny C. Galloway. R.O.: 2 Brooklyn Road, Seaford, Sussex.

IRRESISTIBLE (PERFUMERS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers, importers and exporters of and dealers in perfumes, soaps, powders, toilet preparations and requisites of all kinds, drugs, chemical products, etc. First directors: Joseph S. Lindemann, New York City, U.S.A., and Louis Naidich, Jersey City, U.S.A. R.O.: 73 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

BRITISH JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL PATHOLOGY (word "Limited" omitted by licence of Board of Trade).—Registered as company limited by guarantee without share capital. Objects: To adopt an agreement and carry on publication of the "British Journal of Experimental Pathology." Management vested in a Council, of which the first members are P. Fildes, J. McIntosh, S. P. Bedson, H. W. Florey and W. C. Topley. R.O.: 19 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.2.

BRITISH SURGICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on business as manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, gases, drugs, medicines, surgical, hospital and scientific apparatus, etc. Dr. Arthur Charles Greene and Terence Kirssopp-Greene (first directors). R.O.: 4 Bryanston Street, London, W.1. It is understood that the capital will be increased to £50,000 within the next few weeks, and plans have been drawn up for a factory at Guildford, Surrey.

REGINALD MILTON, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. Objects: To carry on the business of analysers of substances and liquids given off or coming from or part of the human or other body alive and dead, or from or part of any other substance or liquid or from or part of air of any kind of gas, with a view to detect the presence or absence of disease, infection or abnormal conditions; analysts and research workers, etc. Reginald Milton, 16 Lichfield Road, Northwood Hills, Middlesex, director. R.O.: 7 Great Marlborough Street, W.1.

SUSSEX COSMETICS, LTD.—At a meeting held in London recently it was resolved that this company be wound up voluntarily. Mr. G. P. Goldney, 57 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.3, was appointed liquidator.

STEPHEN SMITH & CO., LTD.—Trading profit for the year ended April 30 amounted to £40,097, against £36,241 in 1938 and £48,063 in 1937. Other amounts bring the gross income to £50,227, against £45,832 in 1938, and the net profit has been calculated at £33,404, against £29,276. £3,000 is to be placed to reserve and a final dividend on the year of 12½ per cent. is recommended. The meeting is on August 30.

BRITISH XYLONITE CO., LTD.—The Distillers Co., Ltd., has concluded an arrangement with this company to take a half-interest in B.X. Plastics, Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of the British Xylonite Co. The Distillers Co. produces a number of raw materials used in the manufacture of plastics, and recently put on the market the synthetic resin Distrene. The present capital of B.X. Plastics, Ltd., consists of 450,000 ordinary shares of £1 each and a general reserve of £200,000. The future capital will be 200,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each, 400,000 ordinary shares £1 each, and a general reserve of £50,000. 200,000 ordinary shares are to be sold to the Distillers Co., Ltd., for £400,000.

A Discussion on Proprietary Medicines

AT a meeting of the North-East Lancashire Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society at Blackburn, on August 22, the position created by the threatened withdrawal of the duties on proprietary medicines was discussed. Mr. Emeric Eccles (president) was in the chair. It was reported that the committee of the Branch had had under consideration an advertisement issued by a hospital in the area seeking the services of a dispenser, and as a result of an interview with the hospital authorities they now felt that a qualified man would be appointed to the post.

Introducing the discussion on patent-medicine legislation, THE CHAIRMAN said this matter received consideration at the Birmingham Conference of the Society. One incidental reference took the form of a resolution that B.P. and B.P.C. products should be confined to the qualified pharmacists, but this was not carried. There was little doubt that the Chancellor's suggested repeal of the duty came as a bombshell, especially considering that the duty had been in operation since 1783. It had one useful effect—all the various organisations concerned quickly got to work, and the branches of the Society were kept busy interviewing their parliamentary representatives with a view to getting the repeal held up until there had been a proper inquiry into the subject. In North-East Lancashire they got into touch with the M.P.s for Blackburn, Darwen, Clitheroe, Accrington, and Rossendale, and with one possible exception the replies received were satisfactory.

Referring to the statement of the position by the president of the Society at the Birmingham Conference, Mr. Eccles said in this president they had an exceptionally fine leader who handled the business of the Conference in an excellent and a tactful way, and pharmacists generally should be encouraged by the results achieved. The interviews with the M.P.s revealed solid sympathy with the pharmacist, and he thought Parliament had no desire to relinquish its control of the patent-medicine ramp. All the branches were now to be asked to submit to the Society suggestions to meet the situation. In this respect the Society wished members to avoid entering into any controversy in the lay Press on this matter.

To sum up the position, they might say that there was a likelihood of the duty being removed when the next Budget was presented, and they wished to be prepared with some concrete proposal to take its place—something which, whilst affording some protection to the qualified man would, principally, aim at the protection of the public, because it was from the latter aspect that the Government would approach the whole question. Above all, he appealed to the profession not to let this develop into a criticism of the officials of their Society. Things might happen quickly, and pharmacists must exercise discipline and be prepared with some appropriate scheme to place before the Government. The medical fraternity were behind them in this matter.

MR. HUTCHINSON gave the suggestions made by the Teesside Branch, which included: (1) Exemptions from stamp duty of B.P. and B.P.C. preparations, subject to certain provisions; (2) exemption for ethical preparations, to be registered with the Ministry of Health; (3) payment of stamp duty for all drugs and preparations advertised in the lay Press for the relief of human ailments, whether external or internal. Then followed the suggested annual fee based on the rateable value of the premises concerned. Whilst the Chancellor might be reluctant to tax medicines, he (the speaker) considered there was some justification for this course where preparations were introduced and marketed by people not out to serve medicine but to place their money into paying investments. There were instances where the pharmaceutical qualification was being exploited. Personally, he thought they would be wise to get rid of the known remedy clause and bring everything under any Act which the Government might have in contemplation. The necessity for this would be seen when they remembered that despite a great increase in the consumption of patent medicines, the revenue had dropped from over three millions per year to £750,000. This was obviously a field for additional revenue instead of adding to the burdens of already heavily rated sections of the community like motorists. He suggested that they should consider a form of resolution restricting the sale of B.P. and B.P.C. drugs to the qualified man. After all, who was better able to control drugs than the Pharmaceutical Society?

MR. J. ISHERWOOD: That is a form of resolution which would meet with little support. It is too far-reaching. It means the creation of a monopoly, and this would not be favourable to those in authority. The drugs would have to be specified, although we might substitute "B.P. tinctures" for "B.P. drugs."

MR. BRACEWELL asked if there had been any specific reason given for this repeal.

MR. F. GILLIBRAND said he thought pressure had been brought to bear from some quarters. Customs and Excise wanted the whole matter brought up to date and placed on a sound basis. They had pressed for this for some time.

THE CHAIRMAN: We also have the opinion of the Chancellor that medicines are not a fit subject for taxation.

MR. ATHERTON thought they might get some of the provisions of the Medical and Surgical Appliances Bill incorporated in any new measure. He also thought all formulas should be printed in an acceptable manner and not in the technical names used at present, and medicines should be restricted to the qualified man except in the case of such simple remedies as for headache. The chemist could give advice to a customer which no other section of the trading community was in a position to give.

MR. ISHERWOOD advocated that no single drug or chemical be allowed to be advertised to the public under any proprietary name or any other conditions whatever. He believed this would accord some measure of protection to the public. He objected to the system under which an outside group of men floated a company and extensively advertised a single drug. He thought they would be well advised to concentrate on the simple things first. He supported the idea of the committee taking the necessary steps after having sensed the opinion of the profession as a whole.

MR. W. HOLT thought they were "on the wrong track." The first essential was to dispense with the necessity of patent medicines altogether by including women and children in National Health Insurance. They should concentrate on that aspect entirely. They could not expect any Government to give them a monopoly, for even doctors were not in this favourable position. An extension of the panel would serve its purpose.

MR. BRACEWELL said all they wanted was "a square deal." Whatever scheme they put forward they would not get all they asked for, and the great essential was to look after the public first rather than after their own interests. This could best be done by a committee. If patent medicines were to continue it would not be a bad idea to have a testing laboratory, independent of the Pharmaceutical Society, controlled by the Food and Drugs Department, so that the ingredients of all medicinal preparations placed on the market could be made known.

A MEMBER: The doctors have for some years exposed the ingredients of patent medicines, but I doubt if their crusade has done much good. The public still buy these preparations.

MR. GILLETT considered that some measure of control over these preparations was preferable to taxation, and the Teesside scheme, with modifications, might be supported. If taxation was considered necessary, then this should be done at the source—where they were manufactured. Otherwise they were advocating a taxation of themselves.

A MEMBER asked if New Zealand did not compel manufacturers to pay a duty.

MR. F. GILLIBRAND (secretary) said that broadly speaking most countries called for such taxation. In the United States the preparations had to pass a bureau, and unless they did so, they could not be advertised at all. There was no restriction on the sale, however. In his judgment, it was unlikely there would be any stamp duty in the future—it would be a case of exercising some degree of control in the interests of the public. The Society had emphasised that aspect—the protection of the public.

MR. W. H. LIGHTBOWN wondered whether any pressure had been brought to bear on the Chancellor by big manufacturers. To-day they had people going from door to door with preparations, and what was to stop an extension of that system? The great aim should be to co-ordinate the general position, and this controversy gave them the opportunity to do so.

THE CHAIRMAN said the local committee had considered the question at great length, and their feeling was that the

members should be consulted before any action whatever was taken. Their purpose that evening was to afford some help to the Society.

MR. STEPHENSON thought the committee might usefully consider the suggested establishment of a special schedule of drugs, etc., which should not be handled indiscriminately by the general public.

MR. ARTHUR DOBSON said he had attended five sittings of the joint committee. The N.P.U. felt at the outset that this was so big an issue that other interests should be brought in to deal with the situation, and they had one large body with varied representatives serving upon it. He congratulated the president and secretary of the North-East Lancashire branch on the magnificent manner in which they had approached M.P.s and had generally handled the position. The same tribute was deserved by other branches in the country. The suggestions made would be sifted and some practical scheme would be the outcome. His personal view was that unless strong reasons could be adduced to the contrary, these duties would be abolished, and some system of control substituted. One could hardly understand the suggestion that medicines were not a fit subject for taxation considering that the duties had been levied for upwards of 100 years, and the only time they became a "nuisance" was when destamping came into vogue. Despite the anomalies in the Act, he regarded this as a useful form of revenue, and if placed on a proper basis, the total would be considerably higher than it had been. The shrinkage came when manufacturers found they could exploit the concession granted originally for the private chemist who intended to place his own preparations before the public. They would have to prove to the Committee of Inquiry that these licences, on a scientific basis, could be made of real value to the country. Alternatively, the subject must be approached from a national point of view.

Apart from this issue, the time was overdue for the question of patent medicines to be tackled in the public interests. Reference had been made to an extension of N.H.I. to include wives and children. He believed this was coming along. It was striking that in spite of N.H.I. the sale of patent medicines had increased considerably, and people seemed to pin their faith to them. Two suggestions had been made—one a short-date policy and the other a long-date one. Under the former, they would strive to preserve the *status quo* until the subject had been properly discussed and ventilated. The question was so wide and raised so many issues that in the short space of six months they could not be expected to formulate proposals which any Government would accept. The establishment of the joint committee was the first step. His personal view was that nothing would be done just now, and it would surprise him if the matter was dealt with in the next Budget. The suggested rateable value tax would affect not only the large stores but also the multiple drug firms. This was not a question which permitted of much sentiment. The Chancellor had urged that medicines were not a fit subject for taxation. Then what about sugar, tea and other necessary articles of food?

THE CHAIRMAN said that from the points raised, the committee would be able to evolve a scheme for submission to the Society.

It was agreed to refer to a future meeting a scheme of training time for apprentices; and the chairman reported that the Society had been in touch with one or two assurance companies with the object of organising a scheme of superannuation at the age of sixty-five.

INDUSTRIES AT TREFOREST.—An analysis of industries now located at the Treforest Trading Estate, South Wales, shows that the tenants include eleven carrying on chemical manufacture. Many of the factories are working night and day, and the employment figure continues to rise steadily.

INSPECTION OF DRUGS IN KENT.—The Kent County Council, in a quarterly report, states that among drug samples a camphorated oil was slightly low in camphor, but the deficiency was insufficient to warrant the issue of a certificate. Another drug sample, returned as adulterated, consisted of a lung mixture sold by a chain stores. At the time of sale the composition of the lung mixture was divulged. The lung mixture should have contained several ingredients, in definite proportions, but one at least was lacking altogether, and this was *tinctura camphorae composita*, and of this the mixture purported to contain 33 per cent. A summons was taken out under the Food and Drugs Act against the proprietors of the stores.

Analyst's Report

ACCORDING to the recently issued report of the Birmingham city analyst, 1,386 samples were submitted during the second quarter of this year; nineteen were bought formally and 1,367 informally. The total number of drugs examined was 100, among which were the following:

SPIRIT VINEGAR.—One sample contained only 3.4 per cent. of acetic acid instead of the generally accepted minimum of 4.0 per cent. The wholesalers stated that the vinegar was not their own manufacture, but their suppliers guaranteed that it was produced by alcoholic and acetous fermentation and recommended that it should be diluted in the proportion of 1 part to 2 parts of water to give an acetic acid strength of 4.5 per cent. The term "spirit vinegar" applied to this article was correct, but evidently either the original vinegar before dilution had been too weak or else the dilution had been improperly carried out.

COMPOUND BISMUTH LOZENGES.—A sample was bought as compound bismuth lozenges but proved to contain ingredients in proportions different from the B.P. article. The pharmacist responsible for the sale stated that he sold several varieties of bismuth lozenges and tablets, and regretted the substitution, which he could not account for. The prices of the two articles, wholesale and retail, were the same, so that no advantage accrued to him. A promise was made that more vigilance would be exercised in future.

AMMONIATED QUININE TABLETS.—The formula printed on the label of one sample stated that each tablet contained 1½ gr. quinine sulphate and 2½ gr. ammonium bicarbonate, equivalent to 1 dr. of the B.P. ammoniated tincture. The ammonium bicarbonate present was only 0.95 gr. per tablet, a deficiency of 63 per cent. The retailers immediately withdrew the whole of their stock from all their branches. It was pointed out to the firm that any statement purporting to give the amounts of ingredients present in the tablets should correspond with the amounts present at the time of purchase by the consumer, and that otherwise no specific statements as to quantities of ingredients should be made on the label. The firm proposed to modify their labels so that the purchaser should be under no misapprehension as to the nature of the product he is purchasing. Another sample contained the correct amount of quinine, but the ammonia content was only 0.26 gr. per tablet, whereas it should have been 0.52 gr. The retailer returned his stocks to the makers, who said that the tablets had been supplied twelve months previously and that there was a gradual loss of ammonia even through the sugar coating. They were now ceasing to guarantee the ammonia content.

SEIDLITZ POWDER.—The contents of one of the two white papers submitted was 14 per cent. deficient of the correct amount of tartaric acid. The retailer passed on the complaint to his suppliers, who attributed the shortage to leakage from the paper, which they said had possibly occurred during handling after leaving the weighing bench.

SODA-MINT TABLETS.—Two samples were not made up according to the B.P.C. formula, which requires them to contain ammonium bicarbonate and saccharin in addition to sodium bicarbonate and peppermint oil. These are further instances of the unfortunate confusion arising from the fact that the name soda-mint has been applied to tablets made up to different formulas, although the Codex has adopted it as a synonym for compound tablets of sodium bicarbonate.

RADIUM STORAGE.—Arrangements have been made to transfer, in the case of an outbreak of war, all the radium under the control of the Radium Institute in London—which is responsible for the loan of radium throughout the country—to Mount Vernon Cancer Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex, where a shaft of fifty feet has been bored in the ground for safe storage. This step has been taken primarily because, in the case of radium stored in the ordinary way, if a bomb should burst open the containers, it would be impossible to recover the scattered radium, and the area over which the radium had been dispersed would be a veritable death trap. Above the shaft at Mount Vernon a building has been erected having a concrete wall designed to protect persons who manipulate the radium carrier. When the radium is transferred it will be lowered in brass boxes containing 10 grams each by means of a pulley to the storage chamber.

Present Politics in Pharmaceutical Circles

By "Quæstor"

DURING the last few months there have been so many important developments in pharmacy that it might be well to consider a comprehensive summary of these events in order to have what one might term a general stock-taking of our affairs. As each subject of present importance has been to a certain extent discussed at the Birmingham Conference, I will commence these notes with Conference matters.

Perhaps the most important development which demonstrated itself at the Birmingham meetings—perhaps the most important internal development for many years—was the active part taken in the work by the youth of pharmacy. To mention a few by name, Mr. Kirman of Sheffield; Mr. Spanderman of Mansfield; Mr. Bradshaw of Huddersfield (these latter two, veterans of many conferences but still quite young in years); Mr. Jenner of Wembley, one of the younger scientists; Messrs. Walker and Webster of Bradford, still in their early twenties; Mr. Low of Durham County—all young and vigorous men, with the keenest interest in the future of pharmacy. With such men to take the helm, the ship should never founder. The Birmingham Conference might almost be termed the conference of youth, and, let us hope, future meetings will demonstrate the power of youth within our profession.

The business of the representatives' meetings was taken at a much higher speed than ever before, and it says much for the chairmanship of the President, Mr. Walter Deacon, that the overloaded agenda was completed with time to spare. May I throw out a hint to those responsible for arrangements for delegate meetings in future years? Nothing is inclined to induce restlessness in a public meeting more than inaudibility of speakers. The representatives' meetings at Birmingham were held in a lecture theatre, wherein it was obvious that, while acoustics were excellent from the platform to auditorium, they were abominable in the reverse direction. For future meetings care should be taken that either a room be chosen with better acoustic properties, or that some form of microphonic amplification be provided for the speakers in the body of the hall.

The President's statement on the problems arising out of the medicine-stamp duties question was a reasoned and statesman-like oration, and, in his quiet and unassuming way, Mr. Deacon made it perfectly clear to all that the Council intends to leave no stone unturned to secure every possible advantage for pharmacy, while keeping the interests of the public at large the primary consideration. The field opened up by the medicine-stamp duties inquiry is one so wide that it appears almost without end, and grave difficulty must inevitably be experienced in narrowing this field to reasonable proportions.

Control of Trade Names

The control of the use of trade names for new drugs is rapidly becoming a matter of urgency. The position, already obvious, is that young doctors, spending their time in the hospitals before going out to private practice, are now learning to recognise drugs by their trade names rather than by their chemical or therapeutic action. While no one wishes to prevent any of the reputable manufacturing chemists from reaping the just rewards of the researches carried out at their own expense in their own laboratories, action must be taken in the near future to safeguard the members of the public and the medical profession against such exploitation as is being carried on at the present time. Few physicians will prescribe a proprietary make of sodium bicarbonate or bismuth carbonate; and yet almost without exception these men never order sulphanilamide preparations, vitamins or hormones, without specifying directly, or indirectly by means of a trade name, the manufacturer whose product is to be supplied. While it is now becoming increasingly obvious that some control over the use of trade names for the new drugs has become essential, protection should be afforded to reputable firms against the exploitation of their researches by less scrupulous people who seize upon the published reports of their rivals' work, and then place upon the market preparations with high-sounding names but little therapeutic value. The research work done by the established drug houses is work of national importance, and should be recognised as such; but at the same time exploita-

tion should be controlled, and duplication of the same drug under several trade names should be abolished.

A very different side to the same problem of the control of proprietary articles is the problem presented by firms who cater for the supply of "own name" products to the pharmacist. These articles are also proprietary articles within the eyes of the law, and this side of the question, too, will require all the ingenuity that our pharmaceutical legislators can call to their aid.

To close this question for the present, I would make one plea. Pharmacy must speak to the outside world with one voice and with one voice only. Nothing is more likely to irritate members of Parliament than to receive communications from various bodies all claiming to represent the same interests, and often presenting quite different cases for their consideration. Similarly, individual pharmacists must refrain from presenting their own ideas either to M.P.s or to the public Press. The offices of the N.P.U. and of the Society must serve as clearing houses for the co-ordination of all pharmaceutical arguments on matters of public importance, and no useful purpose can be served by disclosing our ammunition to the outside world at too early a date.

Pharmacists in the Army

And now to leave the medicine-stamp problem, the item of importance after the topic with which I have just dealt was, in the mind of the writer, the statement made by Mr. Donald Pout, of Worcester, relating to the position of the pharmacist in the Army and Air Force. Mr. Pout, upon the invitation of the President, made a reasoned statement upon what is, at the present time, a very important matter. He referred to a speech made to an evening meeting of the Society in 1906 by Surgeon-General Evatt. Mr. Pout quoted many of the arguments from this speech, which advocated the formation of a reserve of pharmaceutical officers. The recent passage into law of the Militia Act, and the conscription of insured persons into the Forces, has made a great change in the position so far as the supply of medicines to the Forces is concerned. The men now in training as militiamen are men who, in civil life, are entitled to the services of a pharmacist for the dispensing of their medicines; and if, as was stated in Parliament during the various stages of the Bill, it is the intention of the Government to safeguard the civil rights of the militiamen, then, in logical consequence, the services of pharmacists should be available to dispense for those whose services have been conscripted. The position is now exactly that visualised by Surgeon-General Evatt in 1906. The British Army is now a civilian army, and the argument for the employment of pharmacists as dispensers has gained new force.

Recent questions in the House of Commons have failed utterly to sound any chord of harmony between the ideas of the Pharmaceutical Society and those of the War Office, so far as the employment of pharmacists as commissioned officers is concerned. Military officials appear to be perfectly satisfied with the work done by their own dispensers, who have, in the main, no pharmaceutical training. The Welsh have a proverb, "Constant tapping will break the hardest stone," and it almost appears that only similar tactics will compel the military officials to realise the importance of the pharmaceutical qualification. Under present conditions, the rank open to a man taking a commission is dependent upon his age, and thus a pharmacist of the age of thirty, taking up commissioned rank, would become, immediately, the superior officer to a medical man taking up his commission at the age of twenty-five. If, as one would assume, both men were in the same corps, the Royal Army Medical Corps, one can see quite clearly why medical sources are antagonistic to the idea of commissioned rank for pharmaceutical officers. The obvious way out of the difficulty would be to organise a corps of pharmacists which would be independent of the R.A.M.C., and which would be responsible for the dispensing in all military hospitals and for the organisation of supplies of drugs and surgical appliances. No longer would pharmacy be looked upon as the handmaid of medicine, but as an equal partner in work of national importance.

Trade Notes

MEDICAL PRODUCTS.—Bayer Products, Ltd., Africa House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, give details elsewhere in this issue of six of their medical products which are now being advertised to the medical profession and of which pharmacists are recommended to hold adequate stocks.

ADRIENNE GIFT SETS.—The United Drug Co., Ltd., Notting-ham, present in our advertisement pages a preview of Adrienne gift sets, which are packed in artistic cream and gold boxes. Details of the items included in the series are given. Inquiries are invited from chemists.

ANTI-GAS EYE SHIELDS.—Cascelloid, Ltd., 60-61 Chiswell Street, London, E.C.1, send us particulars of anti-gas eye shields which, in accordance with the Civil Defence Act, 1939, occupiers of factories with more than thirty employees are required to furnish as part of their defence equipment.

ENGLISH LAVENDER.—We have received from Perks & Llewellyn, lavender cultivators and distillers, 9 High Street, Hitchin, Herts, a bunch of new season's lavender flowers. The stalks carry spikes of excellent colour and full fragrance, and amply justify the optimistic forecast given in our herb crop report (*C. & D.*, August 5, p. 170).

FORTHCOMING REMOVAL.—S. Maw, Son & Sons, Ltd., have a pictorial announcement of removal from 7-12 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.1, to New Barnet on another page of this issue.

PROVINCIAL SHOWROOM DATES.—Coty (England), Ltd., 3 Stratford Place, London, W.1, give on another page a list of provincial showroom dates from August 28 to October 27.

EVER READY SELLING FORTNIGHT.—The Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain), Ltd., Hercules Place, Holloway, London, N.7, are holding their eleventh annual selling fortnight from October 2-14. During this period two competitions are to be held in respect of window displays for dealers and a slogan-making contest for the public. For the former, £880 is being offered in cash prizes. Full details of the competitions are given

in the August number of the "Ever Ready Bulletin," a copy of which will be sent to any of our subscribers on request.

GOYA FACE POWDER.—D. R. Collins, Ltd., 4 Whitehorse Street, Piccadilly, London, W.1, the distributors of Goya perfumes, announce the introduction of Goya face powder which is available in two sizes and five shades—nature, rachel, peach, nectarine and basque. To save retailers carrying large



stocks, the powder is in one perfume only, which has been so blended to harmonise with either of the three Goya perfumes. The boxes in which the powder is packed incorporate two things which will appeal to users. The top of the box is covered with transparent tissue to prevent it getting soiled; a special card disc is enclosed which enables the resealing of the contents.

Trade-Mark Applications

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are grouped. A list of classes and particulars as to registration are given in "The Chemist and Druggist Diary and Year-Book," 1939, p. 342.

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," August 16, 1939)

SCHEDULE IV

- "PYROL"; for soap and cosmetics, excluding hair preparations (3). By Naamloose Vennootschap Pharmaceutische Fabriek A. Mijnhardt, Utrechtseweg 32, Zeist, Holland. 602,253. (Associated.)
- "FLORIL"; for dietetic preparations, containing yeast (5). By Norddeutsche Hefefabrik A.G., Roonstrasse 8, Berlin, N.W.40, Germany. 604,163. (Associated.)
- "TEVITA"; for herbs (5). By Alfred A. J. Frank, 13 Fish Street Hill, Eastcheap, London, E.C.3. 605,234.
- "CALATON"; for insecticides (5). By Leyton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 52 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3. 606,886.
- "Q-EKT" (letter "Q" disclaimed); for medicinal ammoniated tincture of guaiacum (5). By H. B. Parry and J. L. Jones, 17 Alexandra Road, Newport, Mon. 606,910.
- "OXCLAR"; for disinfectants. "TERINDE"; for antiseptics (5). By B. LAPORTE, Ltd., Kingsway, Luton, Beds. 607,004/5.
- "VITALITEE GIVES STRENGTH, HEALTH, ENERGY" with device of man killing snake (word "Vitalitee" disclaimed); for medicated preparations (5). By Northern Counties Drug Co., Ltd., 146 Vine Place, Rochdale. B606,975.
- "EXOGEN"; for medicated tablets for relieving pain (5). By McClure, Young & Co., Ltd., 90 Standard Road, London, N.W.10. 605,464.
- "BONOMINT"; for medicinal tablets containing mint extract (5). By Westminster Laboratories, Ltd., 5 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2. 607,551.
- "MENSINOLE"; for pharmaceutical preparations (5). By W. J. Rendell, Ltd., 161 Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1. 607,773.
- "WILOTENE"; for medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations (5). By Richard Baxter & Son, Bate Mill, Chelford, nr. Crewe. 607,703. (Associated.)
- "CLINTH"; for safety razor blades (8). By Albert and Henry Bassat (London), Ltd.; 52 Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C.1. 606,621.
- "AEROTESSAR"; for photographic lenses (9). By Carl Zeiss, Carl-Zeiss-Strasse, Jena, Germany. 600,093. (Associated.)
- "PEDIPAS"; for surgical foot supports (10). By Euplan-Gesellschaft Timm & Co., Taunzienstrasse 18a, Berlin, W.50, Germany. 608,003.

APPLICATION AMENDMENT

The specification of "BUTYLAR" in Class 3, No. 602,480, by Biometica, Ltd., has been amended to "Toilet preparations (not medicated) for the face, hands and skin."

(From "The Trade Marks Journal," August 23, 1939)

SCHEDULE IV

- "SOLMAK"; for sensitised photographic paper and cloth (1). By S. C. & P. Harding Ltd., Alliance Works, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.5. 607,579.
- "HARVESSAN"; for agricultural chemicals, etc. (1). By Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., 37 Station Street, Nottingham. 607,770.
- "BLACK MAGIC"; for cosmetics (3). By Tattoo, Ltd., Eldon Street, London, E.C.2. 601,230.
- "COOLTAN"; for toilet creams (3). By Kathleen Court (England), Ltd., 320 Regent Street, London, W.1. B605,233.
- Coat of arms of three stars and applicants' name in English, Chinese, Tamil and Malay; for toilet preparations, etc. (3). By G. H. Slot & Co., Ltd., 3 Robinson Road, Singapore, Straits Settlements. 602,654. (Associated.)
- Coat of arms surmounted by a crown; "NERVIC"; for perfumery, etc. (3). By Coty (England), Ltd., 3 Stratford Place, London, W.1. 605,636/607,286. (Associated.)
- "TRUZONE"; for bleaching preparations (3). By B. Laporte, Ltd., Kingsway, Luton, Beds. 606,748. (Associated.)
- "ELSOBRILLE"; for brilliantine (3). By General Kaputine Syndicate, Ltd., Thornton Street, Collyhurst, Manchester, 9. 607,555. (Associated.)
- "THIBETOLIDE"; for perfumery, etc. (3). By L. Givaudan & Co., Vernier, Canton de Genève, Switzerland. 607,637.
- "VITEX"; for medicated wines (5). By Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., 13 Briggate, Leeds. 605,494.
- "CLINOPTIC"; for medicated eye lotion (5). By Genatosan, Ltd., 43 Regent Street, Loughborough. B606,663.
- "BLUE-JAY"; for corn- and bunion-plasters (5). By The Kendall Co., 80 Federal Street, Boston, U.S.A. 603,674.
- "JERITOL"; for all goods excluding injections for sheep and disinfectants; "JUVENIN"; for tonic medicines (5). By Bayer Products, Ltd., 31 Basinghall Street, London, E.C.2. 604,184/606,093.
- "VIGANTOL"; "DETAVIT"; "VIDALON"; for pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary products, etc. (5). By E. Merck, Frankfurterstrasse 250, Darmstadt, Germany, and Bayer Products, Ltd., Africa House, Kingsway, London W.C.2. 605,658/606,270/1.
- "ENTOPAN"; for medicinal and pharmaceutical chemicals (5). By Laboratoires Glaser, 21 Rue d'Aumale, Paris. 606,407.
- "PEPTOCINA"; for medicinal preparations for stomach disorders, etc. (5). By Richard Daniel & Son, Ltd., Mansfield Road, Derby. B606,542.

Births

Notices for insertion in this column must be properly authenticated.

COLEMAN.—On August 17, the wife of William Lionel Blofield Coleman, M.P.S., a director of H. E. De Carle, Ltd., chemists, 9 St. Augustine's Street, Norwich, of a son.

MANLEY.—On August 15, the wife of Leslie Manley, M.P.S., 8 Nether Crescent, Grenoside, Sheffield, of a daughter.

Marriages

NETHERY—HARRISON.—At Donaghcloney Parish Church, Waringstown, Lurgan, co. Armagh, on July 29, James Walter Nethery, son of the late Mr. James Nethery, Ph.C., Dungannon, co. Tyrone, to Harriet Evelyn Harrison.

ROBINSON—SWIFT.—At Newtown, Wigan, recently, Richard Austin Robinson, M.P.S., Standish, Wigan, to Frances Swift, M.P.S., Pemberton.

VICKERS—LEWIS.—At Delph Hill Methodist Church, Bolton, on August 19, John Vickers, Ph.C., Bolton, to Mary Lewis.

Deaths

BLACK.—Recently, Mr. Thomas Moy Black, M.P.S., 160 Franciscan Road, London, S.W.17, aged forty-nine.

DAVIS.—Recently, Mr. Harold Davis, a director of Henry Davis (Newbury), Ltd., chemists, 37 Northbrook Street, Newbury, aged fifty-two. Mr. Davis succeeded his father, Mr. Henry J. Davis, chemist and druggist, in business in 1919. He had held several offices in the town, including the presidency of the Newbury Chamber of Commerce.

DRINKWATER.—Recently, Mr. Alan James Drinkwater, M.P.S., 69 Reddish Lane, Gorton, Manchester. Mr. Drinkwater qualified in 1923.

FINDLAY.—Recently, Mr. Robert Miller Findlay, M.P.S., 89 Holland Road, London, W.14, aged fifty-eight.

PRITCHARD.—At Pontypridd, on August 15, Mr. Evan Thomas Pritchard, M.P.S., 31 Station Square, aged fifty-six. Mr. Pritchard leaves a widow and two sons.

SMITH.—Recently, Mr. Alfred Ernest Smith, M.P.S., 23 North Audley Street, London, W.1, aged fifty-six.

STEPHENSON.—Recently, Gertrude Holland Stephenson, Ph.C., Dunster, Salisbury Avenue, Finchley, London, N.3. Mrs. Stephenson (*née* Wren) was Pereira medallist in 1908.

WILLIAMS.—In London, on August 20, Mr. Leonard Llewelyn Bulkeley Williams, M.D., 4 Stanhope Gate, W.1, aged seventy-seven. Dr. Leonard Williams was one of the earliest and most successful advocates of glandular therapy, and had a large practice as a consultant.

Personalities

MR. W. H. ASHMORE, jun., son of Mr. William H. Ashmore, M.D., Ph.C., Monkstown, co. Dublin, secured second place in the "Evening Mail" swim—the longest distance event held in Ireland—at Dun Laoghaire Harbour, co. Dublin, on August 19.

MR. AND MRS. A. E. BEILBY, Old Radford, Nottingham, celebrated their diamond wedding on August 19. Mr. Beilby qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1875, and has been sub-postmaster at Old Radford for fifty-three years. He still takes part in the management of his pharmacy, and is well known locally for his knowledge of drama and of mediæval architecture.

MR. JAMES H. WOODWARD, M.P.S., 51 West Street, Boston, is shortly retiring from business. Mr. Woodward, who qualified in 1890, plans to live in retirement in Boston.

MR. JAMES W. LIGHTBOWN, son of Mr. William Henry Lightbown, M.P.S., 37 Granville Road, Blackburn, has recently been awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in pharmacy of Manchester University.

MR. HERBERT SKINNER, PH.C., and **MRS. SKINNER** expect to sail from Liverpool on the "Samaria" for New York on August 26. They hope to meet pharmaceutical leaders in New York, Washington, Chicago and Toronto. Mr. Skinner has sent a paper on National Health Insurance in England to the American Pharmaceutical Association's eighty-seventh annual meeting, which is being held from August 21 to August 26 at Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner hope to attend the International Hospitals Association Convention in Toronto, to be held on September 19-23.

Recent Wills

MR. JOSEPH ARTHUR FLOYD, M.P.S., 68 Whiting Street, Bury St. Edmunds, who died on May 19, left estate of the gross value of £5,143, with net personality £5,101.

MR. SAMUEL SNOXELL, chemist and druggist, Devonia Cottage, Ripley, who died on May 10, left estate of the gross value of £2,291, with net personality £1,707.

MR. HAROLD DAVIS DAY, M.P.S., 7 Greenfields Drive, Starbeck, Harrogate, who died on April 10, left estate of the gross value of £2,732, with net personality £1,831.

MR. ARTHUR JOHN WEST, M.P.S., White House, Courtlands Cross, Exmouth, who died on April 17, left estate of the gross value of £11,014, with net personality £7,952.

MR. DAVID HARRIES, chemist and druggist, 181 Newport Road, Cardiff, who died on April 25, left estate of the gross value of £20,050, with net personality £16,451.

MR. FREDERICK HERBERT NEALE, M.P.S., The Laurels, Victoria Park, Herne Bay, who died on May 14, left estate of the gross value of £1,472, with net personality £676.

DR. JAMES WILLIAM EDINGTON, 74 Townend Street, Sheffield, professor of bacteriology, Sheffield University, who died on April 8, left £3,575, with net personality £3,472.

MR. JAMES VERNON DOBSON, M.P.S., Newtown Pharmacy, Newtown Road, Malvern, who died on May 25, left estate of the gross value of £1,599, with net personality £830.

MR. WILLIAM ARTHUR WESTON, M.P.S., 15 Gordon Road, Ealing, London, W.5, who died on March 17, left property of the value of £9,327, with net personality £8,204.

MR. WALTER LLOYD, J.P., M.P.S., 45 St. Nons Avenue, Carmarthen, who died on May 4, left estate of the gross value of £8,102, with net personality £1,156.

MR. HENRY GEORGE PARKER, M.P.S., 76 High Street, Wickham Market, Woodbridge, who died on April 5, left estate of the gross value of £1,243, with net personality £364.

MR. NEWELL EVENS MELBOURN, M.P.S., 2 College Crescent, Hampstead, London, N.W.3, who died on May 22, left estate of the gross value of £3,117, with net personality £2,782.

MR. JOHN CLAYTON CROMPTON, M.P.S., Marlborough Road, Whitegate Drive, Blackpool, who died on February 17, left estate of the gross value of £2,070, with net personality £1,535.

MR. THOMAS HENRY FORD, 35 Weighton Road, Anerley, London, S.E., founder of T. H. Ford, Ltd., surgical dressings manufacturers, who died on February 16, left £12,676, with net personality £430.

MR. THOMAS BROOKS, M.P.S., Myrtle Villa, Willington, for thirty years managing partner of Sanderson & Co., chemists, Willington, who died on April 9, left estate of the gross value of £1,371, with net personality £1,325.

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THE
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST
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Chief Inspector of Factories' Report

WHILST in the main matters concerning public health fall under the control of the Minister of Health, those matters which relate to factories are under the jurisdiction of the Home Office. The annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for the year 1938 provides ample evidence of the care that this department is taking of the health of the workers in all kinds of factories and of the meticulous diligence with which the inspectors under the Act are carrying out their duty. The report for the year 1938 is of special interest to all who are engaged in industry, as it deals with the operation for the first time of the Factories Act, 1937, an Act which largely increases the obligations of occupiers of factories in regard to the welfare of their employees. The general survey of industrial developments in chapter 1 takes account of the growth of the trading estates which are springing up in numerous areas and which represent a noteworthy attempt to promote the spread of industry in areas which have been hard hit by the decay of former well-established industries. Thus, for example, the foundation of an artificial-silk factory in the north-west will soon have the effect of employing from 2,000 to 3,000 people, many of whom will be cotton operatives who have been rendered idle by the closing of their mills. On these estates are growing up factories for the production of foodstuffs and chemicals amongst other commodities; in one a chemical works for the production of ammonia in direct combination with nitrogen and hydrogen, and, elsewhere, a plant for the production of sulphuric acid by a contact process employing vanadium as the catalyst have been established. Of these evidences of the vitality of British chemical industry Sir Gilbert Morgan has taken notice in his Cantor lectures to the Royal Society of Arts.

Turning to the chapters relating to public health, the senior medical inspector has given a very comprehensive survey which will repay careful study, not only by occupiers of factories, but also by pharmacists engaged in retail practice, of some of the factors which influence the health of

factory employees. He asks the very pertinent question : Have shorter hours of work where they have been instituted improved the health of factory workers and to what extent? Whilst, of course, it is only reasonable to allow some time to elapse before the full effects of the social reforms can be felt, the medical inspector does, in a measure, provide a reply to that question. Industrial diseases, notably those due to poisoning by various chemicals, are surveyed in detail. Pharmacists who are engaged in practice in industrial areas will, no doubt, have had some practical experience in dealing with the early symptoms of poisoning by chemicals, and it is to be noted here that modern industrial methods have given rise to new problems. For example, painters have been accustomed to applying paint by means of a brush. The development of the spray for the application of paint has given rise to some interesting problems. It was found, for instance, that a painter engaged in applying a priming coat of white and red lead to window frames supplied under a corporation order contracted lead poisoning and it was not until the manager of the works was persuaded to abandon the use of the spray and revert to the brush that the danger was averted. In another case, benzene poisoning resulting in leucopenia was set up by the use of a cellulose spray in a youth of seventeen.

Arsenical poisoning has been reported in the case of workers in the manufacture of an insecticide containing calcium arsenate and in the manufacture of sheep dips containing sodium arsenite. Mercurial poisoning has occurred in the case of a man engaged in the manufacture of thermometers who had contracted the habit of biting his nails. Some interesting facts in regard to toxic jaundice are elucidated. The jaundice was occasioned by arsenuretted hydrogen, by trinitrotoluene and also by wax heated in the radio condensers. The jaundice apparently gave rise to symptoms which suggested an attack of Weil's disease; the test for that disease in each case proved to be negative. The simple precaution of heating the wax to minimum temperature necessary for use and covering the container was suggested as a means of averting the danger. Tetanus has been responsible for two deaths only : one due to a girl having trodden on a piece of glass and the other due to the crushing of a hand between a girder and a concrete floor. An interesting survey of the forms of industrial dermatitis is given ; one, which will be of special interest to pharmacists, is due to carrots in a vegetable-canning concern. Experiments showed that a positive patch test could be obtained with certain extracts of carrots and an investigation is proceeding to establish the identity of the chemical substance in the carrot which is responsible for this condition.

A point of interest to pharmacists is that referring to first aid. The smaller types of first-aid box now prescribed have proved advantageous. The antipathy which was formerly felt to the use of iodine solution has been met by the use of a solution of gentian violet. The inspector, however, expresses surprise that this suggestion has met with very little response. Pharmacists will note the prescribed use for smaller injuries, of adhesive wound dressings, which are meeting with a favourable reception. The drug industry as a whole will read with special interest the note with regard to the five-day week, as a large pharmaceutical concern took a leading part in the institution of this reform. There is a diversity in the reports of the inspectors as to the effect of the provisions of the new Act on the system of a shorter week. It is a matter of some

difficulty to adjust the limitations of overtime prescribed by the Act to the new system. Cases are reported in which firms have reverted from the five- to the six-day week for this reason.

We are of opinion that the annual report is of such importance that it will well repay both industrialists and retail pharmacists to give careful attention to its provisions. It is a record of work of the character which at one time would have been described as "grandmotherly legislation," and, freeing that expression from all invidious implications, we may truthfully say that the State is displaying concern for the health of the people, and therefore its efforts should evoke a sympathetic response from a body of practitioners whose official motto is "regard must be paid to health."

Public Analysts Regulations

THE Public Analysts Regulations, 1939, referred to on p. 217 of our last week's issue, afford a fresh example of the abstruse functioning of the official mind. The principal clause reads:—

A person shall not be qualified to be hereafter appointed as a public analyst under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, unless either (a) he already holds an appointment as public analyst, or (b) he is the holder of the Diploma of Fellowship or Associateship of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland and is also the holder of a certificate granted by that Institute after an examination conducted by them in the chemistry (including microscopy) of food, drugs and water.

An explanatory circular (No. 1833) issued by an Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Health to public authorities concerned with the administration of Food and Drugs Acts states: "It will be noted that no new departure is being made from the existing practice as set out. . . ." The clause quoted, indeed, seems to do no more than to consolidate the already privileged position of holders of an Institute of Chemistry diploma in the field of public analysis. But when we turn to an earlier paragraph of the same circular we read: "As indicating the qualifications which the Minister is prepared to approve other than those prescribed, I am to say that he will require evidence, satisfactory to him, that the candidate for the office of Public Analyst has attained a standard in analytical chemistry, therapeutics and microscopy equivalent to that required for the qualifications set out in the Regulations." This indication appears to nullify the very definite provision of the principal clause of the Regulations. A way out of the obscurity may perhaps be found by studying the opening words of the Public Analysts Regulations: "Whereas it is provided . . . that no person shall be appointed a public analyst unless he possesses either the prescribed qualifications or such other qualifications as the Minister of Health may approve." With the exercise of due foresight, the diploma of a pharmaceutical chemist would have become a sufficient warrant for its holder to apply, if he desired, for appointment as a public analyst.

Promoting Colonial Trade

IN 1937 a Colonial Empire Marketing Board was set up by the then Secretary of State for the Colonies (Lord Harlech), "to help Colonial territories to develop their own sources of wealth, to sell more goods, and to sell those goods to better advantage." The first report of the Board has just been issued. An important conclusion reached is that the time is not yet ripe for direct publicity for many commodities. The view is taken that an unvarying standard of quality is a necessary preliminary for such publicity and that to this end producers and traders in the dependencies must first reorganise their methods of growing and selling. At the same time,

efforts will be continued to create general interest in the Colonial Empire and its resources, especially by means of film shows and by the publication, within the next few weeks, of a book describing the history and development of the Colonies.

During the past twelve months expenditure by the Board has amounted to less than £10,000, but it is anticipated that when the full campaign is in progress this amount will be increased to around £50,000 annually. A number of investigations have been already undertaken, and some of these closely concern the drug trade. Thus certain Colonial Governments were circularised with a view to discovering possible Colonial sources of agar; favourable reports were received from Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements, and research is to be undertaken on samples sent in from these dependencies. The use of synthetic guaiacol as a source for eugenol has occasioned a decline in the demand for Seychelles cinnamon-leaf oil in recent years, and possible alternative uses for the oil are being sought by the Board. Inquiry has also been made into the qualities of other varieties of ginger than Jamaican and West African in order to find a type more suitable for use in the confectionery trade, and it is understood that samples from Barbados show promise of meeting the trade's needs. Largely as a result of work undertaken by the Board, a grant of £30,535 has been recommended to be made to the Government of the Bahama Islands for scientific research in order to place the production side of the local sponge industry on a satisfactory basis and improve the local marketing organisation. The future work of the Board will be increasingly facilitated as a result of the formation, at the commencement of the year under review, of a number of committees and subcommittees to deal with propaganda and with market surveys.

India's Import Trade

A SURVEY of the import trade of India for the year April 1, 1938, to March 31, 1939, recently issued by the Senior Trade Commissioner in India, Burma and Ceylon, gives an analysis particularly of items in which United Kingdom traders and manufacturers are interested. Comparison of India's import and export totals, as set out in the table below, reveals that there is a balance of Rs. 17.39 lakhs (= 1,739,000 rupees or £1,304,250 of exports over imports).

	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
Exports ...	19,612	18,092	16,277
Re-exports ...	624	828	642
Imports ...	12,460	17,332	15,180

Of drugs and medicines, there was a small decline in aggregate imports from Rs. 2.30 lakhs to Rs. 2.205 lakhs. Imports of camphor remained practically stationary at Rs. 22 lakhs, shipments from Japan advancing from Rs. 10.7 lakhs to Rs. 12.5 lakhs, while arrivals from Germany declined from Rs. 8.6 lakhs to Rs. 6.8 lakhs. In proprietary and patent medicines there was an appreciable decline from Rs. 74 lakhs to Rs. 61 lakhs. Arrivals from the United Kingdom declined from Rs. 32 lakhs to Rs. 27 lakhs; from Germany from Rs. 18 lakhs to Rs. 12 lakhs; and from the U.S.A. from Rs. 14½ lakhs to Rs. 13 lakhs. Imports of quinine salts were practically stationary at Rs. 26 lakhs; arrivals from the United Kingdom showed no change at Rs. 7 lakhs; imports from Germany advanced slightly from Rs. 12.6 lakhs to Rs. 13.9 lakhs, while there was a heavy decline in imports from Java from Rs. 2.2 lakhs to Rs. 1 lakh.

Imports of chemicals and chemical preparations, excluding manures and medicines, showed a decline in total value from Rs. 333 lakhs to Rs. 306 lakhs, the only increases being shown in acids, certain ammonia compounds, calcium carbide, phosphorus, caustic soda, sodium carbonate and certain potassium compounds, while commodities which showed decreases included sulphur and zinc compounds, disinfectants, magnesium compounds and copper sulphate. Imports of optical instruments declined from Rs. 901 lakhs to Rs. 783 lakhs, and there were similar decreases in cinematograph films, photographic instruments and apparatus, and surgical instruments. It is satisfactory that the United Kingdom maintained its percentage of total trade with India during the year, the comparative figures for the principal countries of supply being: United Kingdom, 30.7 against 30.0; Japan, 10.1 against 12.7; Germany, 8.5 against 8.8; United States, 6.4 against 7.4; and Italy, 1.8 against 1.5.

Famous Medical Charlatans

By William Mair, F.R.S.E., F.C.S.

Paracelsus (1493–1541)

IT seems odd to associate the name of the great Paracelsus with charlatany. To him must be attributed the release of chemistry in considerable measure from the trammels of mediæval alchemy. Although a physician he had something of the charlatan in his nature; perhaps it was that he discovered early that sweet are the uses of advertisement. His real name was sufficiently imposing—Philippus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombastus von Hohenheim, but he chose to call himself Para (superior to) Celsus (an Epicurian philosopher of the second century). Like his father he was a Swiss physician and studied at the University of Basle and at Wurzburg, afterwards leading a wandering and adventurous life in nearly every country of Europe: it is believed that he visited India. It was never known that he graduated from any university, but he was ultimately appointed town physician of Basle. Here he signalled his appointment by publicly burning, in a brass pan with sulphur and nitre, the works of Avicenna and Galen, thus announcing his contempt of the then orthodox medicine. His arrogance in this respect did much to impair the value of his work, as did also his intemperate habits. It was written of him at this time—"marvellous Paracelsus, always drunk and always lucid." Because of his tactlessness he had to leave Basle, and he died in poverty at Salzburg in middle life. His medical theory was tinctured, as was not unnatural in his time, with magic and astrology; but he did much to disprove that the main object of chemistry was to discover the philosopher's stone.

Mesmer the Magnetiser

Frederich Anton Mesmer (1733–1815) was a German physician to whom we owe the theory of animal magnetism and who gave his name to it as "mesmerism," now known as hypnose. In 1776 he published a treatise to show that the planets had their influence on the human nervous system, and a little later he opened a clinic in Vienna for the application of magnetism as a curative method. Driven from there he went, in 1788, to Paris, where for a time he was very successful in establishing his treatment as a fashionable cult. At length the Government appointed a committee of the Academy of Sciences to investigate his claims. The result, as at Vienna, was unfavourable to Mesmer. Although magnetism had been largely studied since Galvani, Professor of Medicine at Bologna in 1762, had shown the effects of the electric current in stimulating the nervous and muscular system, Mesmer made the mistake of somewhat contemptuously refusing to accept the investigations in both capitals. He left France and died rich in Germany at eighty-one.

Nicholas Culpeper (1616–1654)

Physician and astrologer, as he styled himself when he set up in practice in Spitalfields, London, in 1640, Culpeper had studied at Cambridge but never attained to any actual degree. He gained a high and well-deserved reputation in London. In

1649 he published an English translation of the Latin *Pharmacopeia Londinensis* (1618) of the College of Physicians. This work, although popular, brought him into serious disfavour with the profession as encroaching on the monopoly of the College and as revealing to untutored minds the recipes of many of the remedies then extant. He was also refused a licence, and he defied this ban by bringing out in 1653, by which time his books and translations had made him independent of practice, "The English Physician Enlarged, with Three Hundred and Sixty-nine Medicines Made of English Herbs," thus giving away all the secrets and founding what has survived to this day as the Culpeper cult. Both books were actually in use till 1802, and were included in a collected edition of his works published in that year. He died in 1654 at thirty-eight.

Sir Kenelm Digby (1603–1665)

Neither physician, alchemist nor astrologist, he was one of the most successful of seventeenth-century more or less medical adventurers to capitalise plausibility and credulity. He was knighted for a privateering adventure in the Mediterranean against a French and Venetian fleet, and on his return to England was made a commissioner of the Admiralty. In 1638 he engaged in Royalist intrigues on behalf of Charles I in his quarrel with Parliament, which led to Digby's imprisonment by the House of Commons. On his release he lived for some time in France, where he became a celebrity of the highest order. He knew Paris as well as he knew London, and brought Harvey to the notice of the French philosopher Descartes: he wrote an adverse criticism of Sir Thomas Browne's "Religio Medici." To a solemn assembly of nobles and learned men of Montpellier he unfolded in a French oration the virtues of his "sympathetic powder." His volubility invested this "perfectly divine" but worthless remedy with such qualities

that it became the most specious of all the specifics of his time. After the Restoration he returned to England.

Alessandro Cagliostro (1743–1795)

Cagliostro's less distinguished real name was Giuseppe Balsamo. He was not a medical man. "Count," as he had become by his own creation, he persuaded the Grand Master of the Knights of Malta to provide him with a laboratory for the manufacture of gold. Later he set himself up in Rome as a wonder worker and sold his version of the "elixir of life." His wizardry was equally successful in Paris; but in St. Petersburg his frauds were detected by Rogerson, a Scottish physician then at the court of the Czar. The crowning folly of this Sicilian was participation in a plot regarding a necklace belonging to Marie Antoinette; and although he was acquitted at the trial in Paris and exiled, he was afterwards arrested in Rome and ended his days in a prison near there. Goethe actually wrote a romance of his life. Dumas père wrote of him in his "Mémoires d'un médecin," and Carlyle in his "Cagliostro and the Diamond Necklace."



British Museum]

Co-operative "Bazaar Stores"

MASS production has the advantage of making goods cheaper, but whether it is good or not to produce articles merely for cheapness is another matter. There are those who think bazaar trading is a necessity, and the Co-operative Wholesale Society appears to have come to that conclusion. The co-operative movement has suffered considerably, it has been stated, by the fixed price store which is run on the lines of the "bazaar." The Co-operative Wholesale Society has considered the matter, and its report expresses a desire to establish a subsidiary organisation to undertake bazaar trading on a non-dividend basis. The detailed recommendations set out in the report are as follows:—

"(1) That it is desirable for the co-operative movement to enter into bazaar trading under central control, and that the Board of the C.W.S. be empowered to establish such subsidiary organisation as they consider necessary to undertake the business.

"(2) That the Board be authorised to establish and operate bazaar stores in areas they may determine, provided the consent of the retail societies concerned in each particular area is first obtained, and also provided that the consent of a sufficient number of societies has been obtained to permit the opening of twenty stores, and the Board is satisfied that the scope offered justifies and warrants business being commenced.

"(3) That there be consultative relationships with retail societies in whose areas bazaar stores are established, such consultative relationships to be effected by means of half-yearly meetings to which each of such societies would be entitled to appoint not more than three representatives.

"(4) That, with a view to meeting the competition of the existing bazaar stores, the C.W.S. Board be empowered to introduce merchandise into the bazaar store within a price limit of 5s.

"(5) That no dividend be paid on purchases."

Principles and Estimates

The report is divided into two main sections, one of which deals with the lines along which the co-operative societies can handle this question. The "Co-operative News" gives an estimate that the trade of existing company bazaars is between £60,000,000 and £70,000,000 annually (compared with a total co-operative retail dry goods trade amounting to £38,500,000 in 1936). In arguing for the principles of Co-operative Wholesale Society operation of bazaars, the report states:—

"We are aware of, and sympathetic to, the desire of committees of retail societies to retain full responsibility for retailing activities in their respective areas. We realise, also, the difficulties which may arise in practice from the existence of two co-operative organisations in one area, both engaged in retailing.

"We would, however, point out that the changing nature of economic and social organisation must inevitably force the movement ultimately to make considerable changes in its own commercial organisation, if it is to keep pace with developments in modern technique. Bazaar trading is a case where such a step forward is necessary. It is incorrect to draw a parallel between overlapping amongst retail societies, providing the same service in the same area, and the provision of different types of service, represented on the one hand by specialised shops and department stores, and on the other hand by bazaar stores."

It is intended, if permission is given, to establish twenty-five stores, but it is not considered advisable to commence business until the organisation is in a position to establish approximately twenty such shops. It is estimated that the cost would be at least £1,250,000, which sum would be earmarked for development purposes. Interest would be charged against the bazaar accounts at a rate equivalent to that paid by the majority of retail societies for share capital. If necessary, the Society would be prepared to bring further capital into the business should circumstances justify it. It would not open any store of this description in any retail society's area without the consent of the committee of management of that society, but considers that such consent should not unreasonably be withheld. The report expresses the opinion that bazaar trading "does possess real economic advantages." In the financial

aspect, three essential features for bazaar store development are laid down:—(1) It must have access to adequate sources of finance. (2) It must be capable of rapid, planned development to a scale sufficient to command from the outset some of the advantages of mass demand. (3) It must have such a degree of centralised control as will permit of a high degree of uniformity and standardisation. It is thought that these would present insuperable difficulties for individual societies, hence the reason for the Co-operative Wholesale Society undertaking this work. It is contended that bazaar trading is a national problem and demands national organisation. It is thought that the resources of the whole movement, including finance and administration, will be required.

It would appear that the co-operative movement feels that it has lost a large part of its trade or its potential trade to these fixed price shops. There is no doubt that large-scale organisation makes it possible, if the distribution is large enough, to make for the last word in efficiency. The Co-operative Society may succeed, but so far one of its big appeals has been the dividend which it gives. With no dividend in the bazaar store, a new situation will arise. Whether the venture will succeed, only time can decide.—WATCHER (22/8).

Insurance Act Dispensing

PORTSMOUTH.—At a recent meeting of the Insurance Committee two cases of incorrect dispensing were dealt with on a report of the pharmaceutical service subcommittee. A test prescription for mist. mag. carb., N.F., was found on analysis to show a deficiency of 21.6 per cent. of mag. carb. levis. The chemist's independent analyst estimated a shortage of 16 per cent. The explanation offered on behalf of the chemist was that, by accident, paper to counterpoise the scale-pan was inadvertently omitted. All previous tests had been quite satisfactory; having regard to this, the subcommittee recommended that no further action be taken. In the second case the medicament called for was mist. pot. brom. c. valerian., N.F. The Committee's analyst found an excess of 17.1 per cent. of ammon. carb. The chemist told the subcommittee that he used resublimed B.P. granulated ammon. carb., costing 1s. 8d. per lb., and not the ordinary ammon. carb., costing 8d. per lb.; also that he worked with a one-in-eight solution. The quantity of solution required was 5 drachms 20 minimis; the dispenser had used a measure graduated 2-4-6 drachms, with no intermediate markings. In support of the dispenser's action the chemist wrote "To measure 5 drachms 20 minimis then becomes a matter of pure guesswork, and to measure 5 drachms 20 minimis is, I maintain, an impossibility with this kind of measure. In an endeavour to measure the required quantity the dispenser had poured too much of the solution into the measure; he then, to make sure that the ammonia strength of the ammon. carb. should be correct, added knowingly a little more, to make up for any loss of ammonia in the solution." The stock solution had been freshly prepared the previous night, presumably with accuracy, and the chemist described the adding of what he termed "a little more" as "over-caution." To describe the above procedure as "over-caution" and frankly to admit "guesswork" appeared to the subcommittee to be an open defiance of the canons of pharmacy. They were surprised to find the chemist not admitting his error in not making use of a smaller measure. They were advised that ammon. carb., in stock solutions, if properly stored, was quite reliable and any deficiency would be negligible and so would not justify over-measurement. In arriving at a decision the subcommittee had regard to the chemist's record. This was the sixth test taken at his pharmacy since the inception of the testing scheme. The first two were satisfactory. The chairman of the subcommittee and the pharmacist member directed the Clerk to write a letter telling the chemist that while they were not referring the third case, they considered the standard low. The subcommittee recommended a penalty of £3. This was confirmed by the Committee.—Nine candidates were nominated for eight seats vacant on the Pharmaceutical Committee. The following were elected:—Messrs. W. R. Atterbury, W. H. Brown, G. W. Darling, A. W. Goddard, T. A. Johnson, E. D. Lewis, H. A. McCoy and J. W. Rhodes.

Diseases and Their Treatment

V—Diseases of the Eye

THE eyeball possesses a wall which is formed by three distinct concentric coats—(1) the fibrous coat comprising the sclerotic and cornea; (2) the vascular coat consisting of choroid membrane, ciliary processes and iris; (3) the retina or nervous lining. The posterior five-sixths of the eyeball is formed by the sclerotic, and the anterior one-sixth by the cornea which is a very sensitive structure owing to its rich nerve supply. In front of the cornea is the delicate epithelial covering known as the conjunctiva. The iris is a vascular and pigmented screen which surrounds the pupil. The iris acts as a diaphragm and regulates the amount of light passing into the eye. The middle coat of the eyeball is the choroid membrane which is very vascular and highly pigmented. The lens of the eye is enclosed in a capsule. The retina forms the innermost lining of the eyeball. It consists of nervous tissue and is transparent.

Diseases of the Eyelids

Simple inflammation of the eyelids is known as blepharitis. It affects the margins of the eyelids. If allowed to go untreated, the result may be permanent loss of the eyelashes. If the condition becomes chronic, the lid margin becomes more or less thickened and the lid may become everted. In treating this condition all crusts must first be removed by an alkaline lotion of sodium bicarbonate (gr. x. to the oz.). An ointment consisting of hydrarg. oxid. flav. (gr. iv. to the oz.) should then be applied. Avoidance of wind and dust is to be recommended, and a general tonic or cod-liver oil is often helpful in such cases.

Stye is another common affection of the eyelids. It is really an inflammation of one of the hair glands. The affected area becomes red, swollen and intensely painful. Suppuration often takes place, with eventually the discharge of thick pus. In treating this affection hot boric compresses should be employed at first. When the pus begins to appear, bathing with a lotion of 1 in 2,000 hydrarg. perchlor. is to be recommended and the application of ung. hydrarg. ammon. As styes tend to come in crops, it is advisable to attend to any possible cause such as lowered health or local infection.

Conjunctivitis

This is inflammation of the conjunctiva or outer delicate covering of the eyeball. It usually comes on quite suddenly with symptoms of discomfort, pain and a sense of heat. There is a discharge from the surface later on, so that the eyelids tend to stick together in the mornings. The inner surface of the eyelids is red and swollen, and the outer surface of the eye appears red to a greater or less extent, while more or less secretion may be seen on the front of the affected eye. The condition may be due to cold or to injury, but is always an organismal disease. One variety of it is met with in cases of gonorrhœa. The great risk of conjunctivitis is the deeper involvement of the cornea or of the iris. This will only occur if the condition is neglected. The first essential in treatment is to work away the discharge by means of a lotion of boric acid and then to apply an ointment consisting of hydrarg. oxid. flav. (gr. iv. to the oz.). It has recently been suggested that this ointment is unsuitable on the ground that it is a powerful irritant and that its mercury content is too insoluble to act as an antiseptic. These objections, however, are somewhat doubtful.

Inflammation of the cornea (keratitis) is most commonly met with in children and in adolescents. It is very commonly, indeed, the result of congenital syphilis. Occasionally it is tuberculous in origin. The cornea becomes opaque to a greater or less extent, with a certain amount of vascular injection. There is usually little or no pain, but the patient dislikes the light. The inflammatory process generally extends to the iris as well. In this disease the pupil must be kept dilated by means of atropine drops. Smoked glasses should be worn to protect the eye, and the patient should be in the open air as much as possible.

Corneal ulcer may result from keratitis or be the sequel of an attack of conjunctivitis. Other causes are wounds, also

burns with acids or alkalis. The ulcer is usually greyish in colour or may be infiltrated with yellowish pus, or it may have a sloughy appearance. A neglected corneal ulcer may lead to loss of eyesight, and so prompt treatment is most essential in every case. The use of boric lotion, frequently applied, is indicated. Some antiseptic ointment should be applied night and morning to the ulcer after bathing. Weak iodoform ointment acts well in many cases. Atropine drops are also indicated to keep the pupil dilated should there be any iritis present as well.

Inflammation of the iris may result from keratitis, syphilis, gonorrhœa, tuberculosis, gout and rheumatism. It is essentially a painful condition. The pain is not only felt in the eye itself but also over the forehead and side of the head. There is a dislike for bright light and the pupil is contracted, while the iris is dull in appearance. The condition may become chronic. Atropine drops must be used to keep the pupil constantly dilated. Warm boric compresses are helpful. A mercurial purge followed by a saline should be administered. An eyeshade should be worn. Any constitutional condition, such as gout, rheumatism or syphilis, must also be treated.

Cataract

This term implies an opacity of the lens or of its capsule. This condition is, in rare instances, congenital. It is commonly met with in persons of advanced age. Exposure to great heat may cause it in some instances, and it also occurs in cases of diabetes. The patient complains of failing vision and perhaps also of giddiness at times. He may see spots before the eyes. He can always distinguish quite readily light from darkness. In this condition the lens of the eye becomes hard and tends to swell to some extent. Later, however, it shows a tendency to return to its original size. Ripening of a cataract implies that the lens has become completely hard and opaque and is no longer swollen. It is useless to prescribe glasses in such cases, as is sometimes done. Operation is the only hope of cure. This consists in extracting the lens or in needling it. The latter operation, however, is only suitable in the case of young persons. The result of a successful operation for cataract in an uncomplicated case should be good vision after the prescription of suitable glasses.

Strabismus

Strabismus or squint means deviation of the eyeball owing to some defect or over-action of the nerves of certain of the eye muscles. The common variety comes on between the ages of two and five years. It may result from the presence of worms, the onset of convulsions or as a sequel to some serious illness or after an injury or fright. In a great many cases a simple squint is curable by prescribing suitable glasses. These, however, must be worn constantly and for several years. In a great many instances children are ordered to obtain glasses. These are apt to get broken and they are seldom, if ever, repaired. The result is that at the school-leaving age the child still suffers from squint which can now only be corrected by an operation on the faulty muscles. If squint is to be cured completely, all errors in vision must be suitably corrected by means of glasses. These must never be left off until the child is completely cured and the vision is found to be perfectly normal.

Colour-Blindness

Colour-blindness is quite common in excessive smokers, more especially of strong tobacco in dirty pipes. The condition, however, is congenital in some instances. It is much more commonly encountered in males than in females. If tobacco smoking is the cause, of course that must be given up. Otherwise there is no treatment likely to prove beneficial.

In conclusion, it is necessary to remind the reader that ocular disease may result from some constitutional condition such as kidney affections, gout, rheumatism, syphilis and diabetes—to mention the more important. This should always be kept in mind, as serious results may follow if the eye condition alone is treated by local measures while the more important underlying cause remains undetected and unattended to.

U.S. Experiments in Ephedra Cultivation

HERE have recently been published ("Journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association," xxviii, 4, 197) the findings in experiments carried out to ascertain whether *Ephedra sinica* was a suitable object of commercial cultivation in the United States. The introduction of *Ephedra sinica* in South Dakota was made a few years ago in view of the likelihood of a world shortage taking place, and a preliminary report was issued in 1936. The present findings deal with experiments on propagation methods; methods of cultivation, harvesting and curing; assay; and commercial aspects. Seeds were collected during the years 1933-37 and tests were made to determine the germination percentage. The average germination for the years 1933-36 is recorded as being 80.64, and the conclusion is reached that the plant, when grown in South Dakota, produces viable seeds from which it can be successfully propagated. The authors (B. V. Christensen and L. D. Hinrich) suggest that the best method of propagation is that of sowing the seeds in rows directly in outdoor plots. The plant can be propagated from its root stock, but stem cuttings, it was found, did not root. The estimated number of plants which can be accommodated in one acre of ground is 6,500.

Cultivation and Assay

The conclusions reached as to the cultivation of ephedra in South Dakota were that the plant is climatically adapted and thrives in dry soils, mulching of the plant being unnecessary. The plants are resistant to disease and to insects, and if kept in rows can be cultivated until they form a sod, rendering further cultivation unnecessary. For propagation purposes the seeds are best collected by hand-picking of the fruits, followed by drying and separating. Alternatively, the whole fruit can be planted as cured. For purposes of extraction the stems are best cut in late September or early October, and sun-curing is satisfactory. Ordinary farm haying tools are well adapted to handling the plants, and the stems may be cut down with mowers and either stacked or baled after curing. As the stems mature they become lignified, and other means of cutting may thus become necessary. By courtesy of one of the firms engaged in handling ephedra products of the United States, a recognised commercial assay procedure was adopted, as follows: 10-gm. samples in fine powder were accurately weighed and allowance made for moisture content. The powder was placed in a suitable percolator, after first wetting with ether the cotton pledge in the bottom of the percolator. The drug was saturated with ether-chloroform menstruum (in the proportion 4:1) and allowed to stand at least five minutes; 10 c.c. of ammonia solution (28 per cent.) was added, mixed thoroughly with the powder and menstruum, and an excess of the ether-chloroform menstruum added, maceration overnight being then allowed. Next morning the drug was packed firmly and percolated at a moderate rate, using the same proportion of ether-chloroform menstruum. Percolation was continued until 300-400 c.c. of percolate had been collected. This was transferred to a separating funnel and the alkaloid extracted by shaking with several portions of 2 per cent. sulphuric acid. Each portion was filtered as it was drawn off, the filter was washed, and the combined acid extract was washed with three 40 c.c. portions of ether to remove traces of chloroform which might have been carried through. A portion of ether was added to the acid solution, which was then made strongly alkaline with ammonia, and the liberated alkaloids completely extracted with several successive washings with ether, as recommended in the United States Pharmacopœia. This procedure gave consistent results as evidenced by the uniform figures reported by different workers assaying several samples of the same drug.

Yield

It was noticed that, with annual harvests, each successive year showed an increase in yield over the four-year period. Yields from two-year plants were greater than those of any

one annual harvest, and approximately equal to the yield of the combined harvests of the first two years. Yields of three-year and four-year plants continued to increase, but the increase in weight was irregular. The following table gives data as to weights harvested, alkaloid content and yield:

Year	Stem Age	Per-acre Yield	Assay, per cent.	Total Alkaloids
1933	One year	3,845 lb.	0.126	4.84 lb.
1934	One year	3,845 lb.	0.150	5.22 lb.
1935	One year	3,502 lb.	0.153	5.35 lb.
1936	One year	3,890 lb.	0.167	6.49 lb.
1937	One year	4,000 lb.	0.214	8.56 lb.
<hr/>				
1935	Two-year	6,921 lb.	0.366	25.33 lb.
1936	Three-year	8,421 lb.	0.421	34.45 lb.
1937	Four-year	10,101 lb.	0.818	82.82 lb.

The conclusion is reached that the four-year-old stems represent the best prospect for cultivation, as not only is the yield of active principle superior, but less expense is involved in handling one cutting than in handling four annual cuttings. It is claimed that the plants on which the experiments were carried out had not reached full production capacity owing to their having been continually disturbed for propagation purposes.

Bromide Intoxication

A STUDY of the cause, symptoms and treatment of bromide intoxication has been made by Gundry ("Journal of the American Medical Association," August 5, p. 466) on fifteen patients who had an initial blood-bromide content above 150 mgm. per 100 c.c. The condition has been encountered most frequently in patients with a psychoneurosis, a psychosis, chronic alcoholism, brain tumour and other organic disease. The patients usually complain of a headache, nervousness or symptoms of insomnia, for which the average physician prescribes bromides. From this, it is not surprising that doctors' prescriptions have caused, according to the author, approximately 50 per cent. of the reported cases of bromide intoxication. The severity of the symptoms of bromism closely parallel the elevation of the blood-bromide level. These symptoms are characteristic, and are found to some degree in all patients with a blood-bromide content above 150 mgm. per 100 c.c. Headache, lack of appetite, dizziness, fatigue, irritability, poor memory and transitory mental confusion have been noted frequently as early symptoms, several of which have been found in cases where the blood-bromide content was between 50 and 150 mgm. More severe manifestations have been noted following increased bromide medication, and when the blood-bromide content exceeded 250 mgm. the clinical picture has been dominated by symptoms characteristic of a toxic psychosis. Dealing with the prognosis of the condition, the author states that recovery from the symptoms requires from one to six weeks, depending largely on the severity of the intoxication. It is obvious that doctors can play an important part in preventive treatment, by care in writing prescriptions and marking them "Not to be repeated." The intake of sodium chloride should be adequate at all times. Sodium chloride is a specific in the curative treatment of bromide intoxication, because chloride replaces bromide in the body and promotes its elimination by the kidneys. This form of treatment can be carried out most easily by giving the chloride in capsules, and it is recommended by most workers that the dose be from 4 to 10 gm. daily, this dose being effective in the cases under examination. An important supplementary treatment consists of forcing at least 4,000 c.c. of fluids daily, giving a nutritious, soft diet, and careful nursing. The question of sedatives is important, as the patients are very restless at times and become exhausted if they do not obtain sufficient sleep. Paraldehyde was used almost exclusively in doses of from 4 to 16 c.c. orally or from 12 to 24 c.c. *per rectum* in the present patients, with very satisfactory results. Phenobarbitone was also used sparingly when necessary to reinforce the paraldehyde.

Trade Report

Where possible scales of prices of chemicals are given for bulk down to small quantities. Prices recorded for crude drugs, essential and fixed oils and coal tar products are for fair sized wholesale quantities. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, essential and fixed oils, etc., vary, and selected brands or grades would be at higher values

28 Essex Street, W.C.2, August 24

FOR the time of year the general tone of the markets is remarkably good, in some sections on account of orders from the Continent, and especially Germany. At the time of going to press no effect on the markets of recent political news could be traced, but we are advised that the Bank Rate has been advanced to 4 per cent.

Crude Drugs

Commodity prices in the large majority of instances remained steady to firm, with no sign of weakening, and RHUBARB and TRAGACANTH were in particularly good demand. Orders from Germany for goods not of direct use in war, but purchased to exhaust credits standing to account of German buyers, affected CASCARA SAGRADA, RHUBARB, SENEGA and other drugs. There was also good Continental buying of BEES' and CARNAUBA WAXES. Firm prices prevail for CASCARA SAGRADA, Spanish-Portuguese ERGOT (though Polish is easier), GUM ACACIA, AGAR for shipment, CARNAUBA WAXES, HYDRASTIS and SHELLAC. Curaçao ALOES continues very firm. The price of BALSAM OF PERU is slightly down. It is understood that there is no present likelihood of an advance in MERCURY prices. At a meeting of the Rubber Exchange during the week it was decided that in the event of hostilities breaking out the Exchange would close for one week.

Essential Oils

Less active on the whole than the crude drugs, the essential oils are yet steady and business is about what is to be expected during the holiday month. STAR ANISE continues firm, as do BERGAMOT and EUCALYPTUS. MANDARIN is slightly dearer than last week. Sicilian LEMON is weaker at the source.

Exchange Rates on London

The following is a list of the chief Continental and other exchange rates at the opening on Thursday morning:—

Centre	Quoted	Par	August 17	August 24
Amsterdam ...	Fls. to £	12·107	8·72	8·72
Berlin ...	Mks. to £	20·43	11·66	11·67
Brussels ...	Belgas to £	nominal	27·55	27·68
Copenhagen ...	Kr. to £	18·159	22·40	22·40
Lisbon ...	Esc. to £	110	110	110
Madrid ...	Ptas. to £	25·24½	nominal	nominal
Milan... ...	Lire to £	92·46	89	89
Montreal ...	Dols. to £	4·86½	4·68	4·68½
New York ...	Dols. to £	nominal	4·68½	4·68½
Oslo ...	Kr. to £	18·159	19·90	19·90
Paris ...	Fr. to £	124·21	176½	176½
Prague ...	Kr. to £	164·25	nominal	nominal
Stockholm ...	Kr. to £	18·150	19·40	19·40
Warsaw ...	Zloty to £	43·38	24½	25½
Zurich ...	Frs. to £	25·2115	20·73	20·73

Bank rate 4 per cent.

Pharmaceutical Chemicals, etc.

THE volume of business passing is good for the time of year. There are no major price alterations.

ACETANILIDE.—Moderate inquiry; prices steady. B.P. crystals and powder, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10½d. per lb., as to quantity.

AMIDOPYRINE.—Dealers continue to quote keenly. Crystals, two cwt., 9s. 4d.; one cwt., 9s. 8d.; less than one cwt., 10s. per lb., with powder 2½d. per lb. extra.

ASPIRIN.—Makers' scales of prices continue steady:—

In containers	1 lb.	2 lb.	4 lb.	7 lb.	14 lb.	28 lb.
	s. d.	s. d.				
1 lb. and under 4 lb. ...	3 3	3 1½	—	—	—	—
4 lb. and under 7 lb. ...	3 2	3 0½	3 0½	—	—	—
7 lb. and under 14 lb. ...	3 1	2 11½	2 11½	2 10½	—	—
14 lb. and under 28 lb. ...	3 0	2 10½	2 10½	2 9½	2 9½	—
28 lb. and under 1 cwt. ...	2 11	2 9½	2 9½	2 8½	2 8½	2 8
Not less than 1 cwt. ...	2 7½	2 6	2 5½	2 5½	2 5	2 4½
Not less than 5 cwt. ...	2 7	2 5½	2 5½	2 4½	2 4½	2 4
Not less than 10 cwt. ...	2 6	2 4½	2 4½	2 3½	2 3½	2 3

The quotations for aspirin, powder and tablets, are subject to the following conditions:—Buyer not to resell any quantity at prices or terms below the scale for such quantity current at the time the sale is made, and, if he converts the aspirin into tablets, not to sell any quantity of tablets at prices or terms below the scale for such quantity at the time he sells the tablets.

CAFFEINE.—Prices for Continental material steady, as follows: PURE: bricks, less than 56 lb., 9s. 9½d.; 56 lb., 9s. 7½d.; one cwt., 9s. 5½d. per lb. Powder, less than 56 lb., 10s. 1d.; 56 lb., 9s. 11d.; one cwt., 9s. 9d. per lb. Anhydrous powder, less than 56 lb., 10s. 6d.; 56 lb., 10s. 4d.; one cwt., 10s. 2d. per lb. CITRATE: less than 56 lb., 6s. 6½d.; 56 lb., 6s. 5½d.; one cwt., 6s. 4½d. per lb., delivered United Kingdom, duty paid. Cases and 5-lb. tins free.

CHLORAL HYDRATE.—Makers' scale of prices continues unchanged: Duty-paid crystals, in 14-lb. free containers, five cwt., 3s. 2d.; one cwt., 3s. 3d.; 28 lb., 3s. 4d.; 28-lb. jars one penny per lb. extra.

CITRIC ACID (B.P. CRYSTALS).—Fair inquiry; prices steady. British material quoted at 1s. 0d. per lb., less 5 per cent. discount, nominal and without engagement. Dealers' prices for imported material competitive.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—A steady market. British material, 99 to 100 per cent., 92s. per cwt., less 2½ per cent. discount. Dealers' prices for foreign material competitive.

CREOSOTE (B.P.).—Steady and unchanged. Bulk quantities, in 25-kilo. demijohns, 1s. 6d.; small parcels, 1s. 7½d. to 2s. per lb., ex store.

EPHEDRINE.—Quiet and unchanged. Hydrochloride, B.P., 4s. to 4s. 3d. per oz., for minimum 1,000-oz. lots; small quantities, up to 5s. 3d. per oz. Pure alkaloid, from 6s. to 6s. 9d. per oz., as to quantity.

GALLIC ACID.—Average inquiry; prices steady. Spot, one cwt., 3s.; 56 lb., 3s. 1d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 6d. per lb.

GUAIACOL CARBONATE.—A quiet market: 8s. 1d. per lb.; bulk quantities at slightly cheaper prices.

IODIDES.—Makers' prices for salts unchanged. POTASSIUM, B.P.—Not less than 1 cwt., 5s. 3d.; not less than 28 lb., 5s. 6d.; not less than 14 lb., 5s. 9d.; not less than 7 lb., 6s. 3d.; not less than 4 lb., 6s. 9d.; smaller quantities, 7s. 3d. per lb. SODIUM, B.P., not less than 7 lb., 7s. 4d.; not less than 4 lb., 8s.; smaller quantities, 8s. 1d. per lb. IODINE, B.P., RESUBLIMED.—Not less than 1 cwt., 5s. 9d.; not less than 28 lb., 6s.; not less than 14 lb., 6s. 3d.; not less than 7 lb., 6s. 9d.; not less than 4 lb., 7s. 5d.; smaller quantities, 8s. 2d. per lb. Iodoform, B.P., CRYST. PRECIP. OR POWDER.—Not less than 28 lb., 8s. 3d.; not less than 14 lb., 8s. 7d.; not less than 7 lb., 9s. 3d.; not less than 4 lb., 10s. 1d.; smaller quantities, 10s. 1d. per lb. Contracts for 1 cwt. and upwards (assorted if required), with fall clause for delivery as required during four months, 28-lb. tins and 1-cwt. cases free. All bottles are charged, but will be credited in full if returned carriage paid, in good condition, within three months. Carriage paid on any quantity. It is a condition of sale that buyers undertake not to resell any quantity of the above products at prices below the scale for any such quantity current at the time the sale is made.

LACTIC ACID (B.P.).—Prices steady. Quantities, in carboys, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.; in winchesters and bottles, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10½d. per lb., as to quantity.

MERCURIALS.—Makers' prices continue steady at the revised scale recently announced.

	Less than 28 lb.	Not less than 28 lb.	Not less than 112 lb.
	per lb. s. d.	per lb. s. d.	per lb. s. d.
Ammoniated Lump B.P. (White Precip.)	6 10	6 6	6 5
Ammoniated Powder B.P.	7 0	6 8	6 7
Bichloride Lump B.P. (Corros. Sub.)	6 1	5 9	5 8
Bichloride Powder B.P. (Corros. Sub.)	5 6	5 2	5 1
Bichloride Powder B.P. ...	5 9	5 5	5 4
Subchloride B.P. (Calomel)	6 7	6 3	6 2
Red Oxide Cryst. B.P.C. (Red Precip.)	7 11	7 7	7 6
Red Oxide Levig. B.P.C.	7 5	7 1	7 0
Yellow Oxide B.P.	7 3	6 11	6 10
Persulphate White	7 0	6 8	6 7
Sulphide Black (Hyd. Sulph. cum Sulph. 50%)	6 11	6 7	6 6

Net prices. Strictly without engagement. On usual terms. Special prices for larger quantities and for contracts.

METHYL SALICYLATE.—Steady at makers' scale of prices. Spot, ten cwt., 1s. 12d.; five cwt., 1s. 2d.; one cwt., 1s. 2d.; less than one cwt., 1s. 3d.; small quantities, in bottles, up to 2s. per lb.

METHYL SULPHONAL.—Slow demand at steady prices. Two cwt., 1s. 3d.; 56 lb., 2os. 2d.; small parcels, 2os. 8d. per lb.

PARALDEHYDE.—Quoted unchanged: in carboys from about 1s. 2d. and in winchesters from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

PHENAZONE.—Little inquiry. Quoted at: crystals, five cwt., 6s. 9½d.; two cwt., 7s.; less, up to 7s. 6d. per lb., with powder 2d. per lb. extra.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN.—Quiet but steady: two cwt., 2s. 9d.; one cwt., 2s. 10d.; 28 lb., 3s.; 14 lb., 3s. 1d.; 7 lb., 3s. 2d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 6d. per lb.

PHENYLETHYLBARBITURIC ACID.—Steady at from 16s. to 17s. per lb., according to quantity.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE (B.P.).—The scale of prices of British makers for home trade is: Not less than one cwt., 10½d.; not less than three cwt., 10d.; in drums; not less than 5 cwt., 9½d. in 1-cwt. drums and 9½d. in 5-cwt. drums, net, delivered buyer's station, drums free. Technical or commercial quality, one cwt., 96s.; three cwt., 91s. 6d.; five cwt., 89s.; one ton, 86s. 6d. per cwt., in 1-cwt. drums.

QUININE SALTS.—Convention prices steady and unchanged: sulphate, 2s. 3d.; bisulphate, 2s. 3d.; ethyl carbonate, 2s. 11½d.; salicylate, 2s. 11½d.; hydrochloride, 2s. 10d.; dihydrochloride, 3s. 1½d.; hydrobromide, 2s. 10d.; dihydrobromide, 3s. 1½d.; valerianate, 3s. 9½d.; phosphate, 3s. 5½d.; hydrophosphate, 4s. 1½d.; alkaloid, 3s. 1½d. per oz., 100-oz. tins free, carriage paid on bulk quantities.

RESORCIN.—Steady at makers' scale of prices:—crystals, 56 lb., 5s. 6d.; 28 lb., 5s. 7d.; 14 lb., 5s. 9d.; 7 lb., 6s.; less than 7 lb., up to 6s. 6d. per lb.

SACCHARIN.—Convention price for 550 is 37s. 6d. per lb., duty paid, with rebates for quantities.

SALICYLIC ACID (B.P.).—Steady and in moderate demand: five cwt., 1s. 7d.; one cwt., 1s. 7½d.; 28 lb., 1s. 10d.; 14 lb., 1s. 11d.; 7 lb., 2s. 0½d.; 4 lb., 2s. 2½d. per lb.

SALOL.—Quoted on spot at: crystals, two cwt., 2s.; one cwt., 2s. 1d.; 56 lb., 2s. 2d.; smaller parcels, up to 2s. 6d. per lb.; powder, 2½d. per lb. extra.

SANTONIN.—Revised Convention prices (duty paid and free delivered U.K.) came into operation on August 14, as follows:—50 kilog. and over, £26; 25 to 50 kilog., £26 2s. 6d.; 15 to 25 kilog., £26 5s.; 10 to 15 kilog., £26 10s.; 5 to 10 kilog., £27 5s.; less than 5 kilog., £28 per kilog., 1-kilog. tins free; 500-gm. tins at 2s. 6d.; 100-gm. tins at 8s.; 1-oz. bottles at 2os. per kilog. extra. For second-hand parcels, of which few are available, the price asked is £25 per kilog., spot, in bond.

SODIUM BENZOATE (B.P.).—In occasional demand. The prices range from 1s. 4d. per lb. for quantities of one cwt. to 2s. per lb. for lesser amounts, as to quantity.

SODIUM DIETHYLBARBITURATE.—Steady and unchanged. Spot, one cwt., 11s.; 28 lb., 11s. 3d.; 14 lb., 11s. 6d.; 7 lb., 11s. 9d.; smaller parcels, up to 12s. 3d. per lb.

SODIUM SALICYLATE (B.P.).—Fair inquiry, with prices steady: home trade, crystals or powder, five cwt., 1s. 5½d.; one cwt., 1s. 6d.; 28 lb., 1s. 9d.; 14 lb., 1s. 10½d.; 7 lb., 1s. 11½d.; 1 lb., 2s. 4d. per lb.

SULPHONAL.—Quoted at, for crystals or powder: two cwt., 15s. 5½d.; one cwt., 15s. 10½d.; 56 lb., 16s. 1d.; smaller parcels, up to 16s. 7½d. per lb.

TARTARIC ACID (B.P. CRYSTALS).—Unchanged. British makers quote at 1s. 1½d. per lb., less 5 per cent. discount. Foreign materials offered by dealers at competitive prices.

THEOBROMINE.—Scale of prices for Continental material unchanged: pure, less than 56 lb., 8s. 8½d.; 56 lb., 8s. 6d.; one cwt., 8s. 4½d. per lb. Theobromine and sod. sal., less than 56 lb., 6s. 10d.; 56 lb., 6s. 9d.; one cwt. 6s. 8d. per lb., delivered U.K., duty paid. Cases and five-lb. tins free; smaller packing extra.

THYMOL.—Synthetic, priced at 6s. per lb. for fine white, one cwt.; 6s. 4d. for 56 lb.; 6s. 9d. for 28 lb.; 7s. 6d. per lb. for smaller quantities; ex ajowan seed, one cwt., 8s. 5d.; 56 lb., 8s. 10½d.; 28 lb., 9s. 5d.; 14 lb., 10s. 6d. per lb.

VANILLIN.—Fair inquiry, with prices remaining as previously quoted: ex clove oil or guaiacol, five cwt., 11s.; one cwt., 11s. 1½d.; 56 lb., 11s. 3d.; less, 11s. 6d. per lb., with isolated offers of outside material at cheaper prices.

Crude Drugs, etc.

AGAR.—Moderately quiet, despite a certain amount of buying for export. Spot stocks low; shipment prices firmer. Spot, Kobe, No. 1, 5s. 1½d. to 5s. 4d.; No. 2, 4s. 11d. to 5s. Yokohama, No. 1, 4s. 11d. to 5s. per lb.; shipment, Kobe, No. 1, 4s. 9d.; No. 2, 4s. 7d. Yokohama, No. 1, September-October, 4s. 6½d. per lb., c.i.f.

ALOES.—Curaçao firm; no shipment offers. Cape, spot, 47s. 6d.; shipment, 43s. per cwt., c.i.f. Curaçao, spot, 195s. to 215s. per cwt.

ANTIMONY.—Firmer. Chinese, crude, spot, in bond, £49; afloat, £48; shipment, September-October, £47 10s. c.i.f. English regulus, £71 per ton, ex store.

BALSAMS.—Quiet; Peru easier on spot: *Tolu*, hard short, 1s. 9d.; *Canada*, spot, cheaper and steady at 2s. 9d.; shipment, 2s. 8d.; *Copaiba*, 1s. 8d.; *Peru*, 3s. 6d. per lb., spot.

BENZOIN.—Routine business has been done and prices are steady. Sumatra, 72s. 6d. to 90s. per cwt. Siam, medium almonds, £26; bean and pea, £22; pea size, £20 per cwt.

BUCHU.—The market is exceptionally quiet, one dealer reporting only one bale sold during the week. It is probable that the best of the material has now been shipped, and buyers wanting buchu of good quality should henceforward buy on spot. Shipment, quoted at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. c.i.f.; spot, new crop, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per lb., with old crop at cheaper rates.

CAMPHOR.—Japanese quoted unchanged on a slow market. Natural, spot, tablets, 2s. 5½d.; powder, 2s. 2½d.; slabs, 2s. 2½d. per lb., ex store; shipment, tablets, 2s. 1d.; powder, 1s. 10½d.; slabs, 1s. 10d. per lb., c.i.f. English refined flowers, one cwt., 3s. 1d.; 28 lb., 3s. 2d.; small lots, 3s. 3d. per lb. Transparent tablets, 4 oz., 8 oz., and 16 oz., 3s. 4d.; 1 oz. and 2 oz., 3s. 5d.; ½ oz., ¾ oz. and ¼ oz., 3s. 6d. Japanese monopoly BB brand, £7 10s. per 100 lb.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Few offers have been received from the source and supplies are slow to come in. Prices are again dearer. New crop, values around 44s. to 45s. per cwt.; spot, 1938 peel, 55s.; 1937 peel, 62s. 6d. to 65s.; 1936 peel, 65s. per cwt.

CELERY SEEDS.—Quoted on the spot at 75s. per cwt.

CHAMOMILES.—First pickings of new crop Belgian are now to be had at 16s. per cwt., duty paid.

CLOVES.—Quiet; prices unchanged. Zanzibar, spot, 8½d.; shipment, August-September, 7½d. per lb., c.i.f. Madagascar, spot, in bond, 7½d.; shipment, August-September, 6½d. per lb., c.i.f.

The landings of Zanzibar in London during the week ended August 19, were nil, and the deliveries 17, leaving a stock of 657. From January 1 to date the landings of Zanzibar have been 1,774, and the deliveries 1,397. Landings of Madagascar for the week ended August 19 were 99, and the deliveries 44, leaving a stock of 1,000. From January 1 to date the landings of Madagascar have been 1,567 and the deliveries 1,053.

COCONUT (DESICCATED).—Spot prices for medium rather firmer; forward positions also firmer. Spot, fine, 18s. 6d.; medium, 18s. 3d. per cwt.; shipment, halves, August-September, 17s. 11½d. per cwt., c.i.f.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Demand continues good and the market is firm. Finest Lofoten quality, 78s. to 79s. per barrel, c.i.f. London.

COLCHICUM.—The present spot price for root is 47s. 6d. per cwt. and for seeds 1s. per lb.

DIGITALIS LEAVES.—Good green are available on the spot at 85s. per cwt.

ERGOT.—Spanish-Portuguese continues scarce and difficult to obtain. Business has been done at 6s. 3d., but a truer estimate of to-day's values would be 6s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. per lb. Shipment position not materially altered, 6s. to 6s. 3d. per lb. Polish, easier; spot, 3s. 9d. to 4s. per lb., as to seller; shipment, around 3s. 4d., c.i.f.

GAMBoge.—Still quiet. Quoted at £13 per cwt.

GENTIAN.—Quoted at 28s. 6d. per cwt., ex store.

GINGER.—Quiet and easy. West African, spot, 17s. 6d.; shipment, 14s. per cwt., c.i.f. Jamaican, spot, bold, in barrels, up to 65s.; small grinding, in bags, 32s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt., c.i.f.

GUM ACACIA.—Increased inquiry has resulted in prices going rather higher than recorded last week. Kordofan, cleaned sorts, spot, 46s.; shipment, 43s. per cwt., c.i.f.

HENBANE.—Good quality material is available at 62s. 6d. per cwt., ex store.

HONEY.—Little demand has been experienced and prices are unaltered. Jamaican, from 32s. for dark manufacturing to 45s. per cwt. for pale set. Canadian, 42s. to 45s. Californian white, clover, 47s. 6d., duty paid. Small quantities of all varieties at higher rates.

HYDRASTIS.—Again firmer: spot, U.S.P., 14s. 3d. to 14s. 6d.; high test, 15s. 3d.; shipment, U.S.P., 14s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

JUNIPER BERRIES.—Supplies are available on the spot, and the price quoted is 25s. per lb.

LIQUORICE ROOT.—Natural of good quality is quoted at 12s. per cwt., ex store.

Lycopodium.—Quoted at 4s. 6d. per lb.

MANNA.—Finest selected flake, in 1-lb. tins, quoted at 3s. 6d. per lb., ex store.

MENTHOL.—Business done of a routine character. Japanese, K/S brands, spot, 12s. to 12s. 3d., as to seller; shipment, 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., as to seller. Chinese, spot, 11s. 1½d.; shipment August-September and September-October, 9s. 7½d. per lb., c.i.f.

MERCURY.—There has been no increase in prices, which stand at: per bottle, f.o.b., Continent, 76 dollars; c.i.f., London, £16 16s.; ex store, London, £16 10s.

PEPPER.—Lampung, fractionally easier forward. Lampung, in bond, 2½d.; shipment, August-October, 1½d.; October-December, 1½d., c.i.f. White Muntok, in bond, 3½d.; shipment, August-October, 3d.; October-December, 3½d., c.i.f. London Terminal Market: Black, August, 2½d.; October, 2½d.; December, 2½d.; White, August, 3½d.; October, 3½d.; December, 3½d. per lb.

PIMENTO.—A further slight advance has taken place in the spot price, though forward values are easier: spot, 8½d. per lb.; shipment, August, 7os.; September, 6gs. per cwt., c.i.f.

RHUBARB.—There has been rather more inquiry this week for rough round; and business has been good both on the spot and forward, without actual alteration in price. Shensi has also been in good demand, but spot stocks are not of really good quality. Rough-round, best available, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; Shensi, small to medium, poorish quality, 5s. 1½d. to 5s. 3d.; Shensi pickings, 4s. 3d.; Canton pickings, 3s. 6d. per lb.

RUBBER.—After running higher, as a result of German buying, values are again easier at the figures given: Standard ribbed smoked sheet, 8½d.; shipment, August, 8½d.; September, 8½d.; October-December, 8½d.; January-March, 8½d.; April-June, 8½d. per lb.

SEEDS.—**ANISE.**—Spot, duty paid, Spanish, 8os.; Bulgarian, 42s. 6d.; Russian, 42s. **CANARY.**—Spot, duty paid, Mazagan, 12s. 6d.; Morocco 10s. 6d.; Turkish, 11s. 6d.; Plate, 11s.; Spanish, 33s. to 40s. **CARAWAY.**—Spot, duty paid, Dutch, 46s.; f.o.b. Holland, 41s. quoted. **CORIANDER.**—Very little demand: Morocco, spot, duty paid, 13s. 9d.; in bond, 12s. 9d., for August-September shipment, quoted at 10s. 9d., c.i.f. **CUMIN.**—Spot, Morocco, 40s., duty paid. No Malta to be had on spot. New crop for September shipment quoted at 46s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. **FENNEL.**—Spot, Indian, 30s. to 32s. 6d.; Iran, 25s., in bond. **FENUGREEK.**—Spot, Indian, 11s. 9d.; Morocco, 11s. 6d., duty paid. **MUSTARD.**—English, 25s. 6d. to 33s., according to quality.

SENEGA.—Unchanged at the firmer prices quoted last week: spot, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; shipment, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. per lb., c.i.f.

Senna.—With spot stocks continuing small, prices remain steady to firm. One dealer reports that a consignment of good green Tinnevelly leaves has been received. Holders generally are quoting cautiously at the rates detailed in our last report.

SHELLAC.—Large purchases from Germany, which it is understood have now ceased, have caused an improvement in prices of TN orange: spot, standard TN orange, 36s. to 39s.; fine orange, 50s. to 75s.; pure button, 45s. per cwt. For arrival, TN, August-September, 36s. per cwt. c.i.f.

SQUILL.—Quiet. Quoted at 27s. 6d. per cwt., spot, for good white.

TONKA BEANS.—Fair frosted Para beans, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9½d. per lb. for quantities, ex store; shipment, 1s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

TRAGACANTH.—Fine white and medium grades down to £35 per cwt. have been in good demand; so also have brown and amber leaves between £13 and £18, but prices are unchanged: Finest selected white ribbon, £60; No. 1, white, £55 to £57 10s.; No. 2, white, £50 to £53; No. 3, white, £35 to £42 10s.; amber leaf, £32; cleaned amber sorts, £16; brown to amber leaf, £11 10s.; red leaf, £9 to £10; boggy, £6 to £7 per cwt., ex store.

TURMERIC.—Firmer. Madras finger quoted on spot at 31s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt., as to seller; shipment, 27s. to 28s., c.i.f., as to seller. Rajapore, spot, 32s. 6d.; shipment, 28s. 6d. per lb.

VALERIAN ROOT.—Quoted at 37s. 6d. per cwt.

WAXES.—**BEES'.**—In better demand, especially from Continental buyers: prices unaltered. Dar-es-Salaam, spot, 100s.; shipment, 95s., c.i.f. Benguela, 90s., in bond; shipment 85s., c.i.f. Conakry, 90s., in bond; shipment, 85s., c.i.f. Japanese spot, 74s., duty paid; shipment, August-September, 58s. per cwt., c.i.f., for first three brands. Madagascar, F.D.E., 92s. 6d., duty paid; shipment, new crop August-September, 77s. 6d., c.i.f. **CARNAUBA.**—Large buying from the Continent has sent prices up: fatty grey, spot, 145s.; afloat, 140s.; shipment, August-September, 137s. 6d., c.i.f. Chalky, grey spot, 137s. 6d.; shipment, August-September, 136s., c.i.f. Primeira, spot, good quality, 200s.; shipment, August-September, 192s. 6d.; Mediana spot, 190s.; shipment, 185s. per cwt.

Essential and Expressed Oils, etc.

Most values are steady, with star anise, bergamot and eucalyptus very firm. Mandarin is at a slight advance. Sicilian lemon in the shipment position is easier.

ALMOND.—A dull market; prices steady: English-made, cwt. lots, 2s. 3d.; smaller parcels, up to 2s. 9d. per lb.; foreign, cwt. lots, 2s. 4½d.; smaller parcels, up to 3s. per lb. French, bitter, 6s. to 6s. 1½d. per lb.

ANISE (STAR).—Continues firm, without material alteration of price; shipment offers scarce. Spot, leads, 3s. 4d.; tins, 3s. 1d.; drums, 2s. 11½d. to 2s. 11½d. per lb., ex store; shipment, tins, 2s. 8½d.; drums, 2s. 7½d. per lb., c.i.f.

AVOCADO PEAR.—Californian oil available at 42s. 6d. to 50s. per gallon, as to quantity.

BAY.—There has been a fair average demand, though the market is somewhat easy at 4s. to 5s. per lb., as to quantity, in cases.

BERGAMOT.—Continues very firm in absence of new-crop information: spot, above 15s. 6d. for genuine oil; shipment, about 15s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f. Blended oils at lower prices.

CAJUPUT.—In occasional demand; spot values, B.P., 1s. 10d. to 2s. 1½d. per lb., as to quantity.

CANANGA.—Dull. Quoted on the spot at 4s. 4½d. to 4s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity and packing; shipment, 4s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f.

CARAWAY.—A dull market, but prices are unaltered: Dutch rectified, from 7s. 3d. to 7s. 7½d.; crude, from 6s. 9d. to 7s. per lb.,

landed and duty paid. Russian, double-distilled, from 7s. to 7s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity.

CASSIA.—Steady at 3s. 1d. per lb. in leads and 2s. 5d. per lb. in drums, spot.

CEDARWOOD.—In steady demand, with prices fully firm: African, in drums, 1s.; smaller packages, up to 1s. 5d. per lb. American, in drums, 1s.; smaller packages, up to 1s. 5d. per lb.

CINNAMON LEAF.—Spot values steady at, for repacked oil in limited quantities, from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per lb., as to quantity.

CITRONELLA.—Steady. Ceylon, spot, drums, around 1s. 4½d.; smaller parcels, up to 1s. 9d.; shipment, drums, 1s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f. Java, spot, drums, 1s. 7½d.; smaller parcels, up to 1s. 10½d.; shipment, drums, 1s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f.

CLOVE.—Average spot demand; prices steady: Madagascar, spot, drums, 2s. 6d. per lb., if available; smaller parcels, up to 3s. 3d. English distilled, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 9d. per lb., as to quality and quantity, ex store.

EUCALYPTUS.—Continues in good demand, and prices are very firm, though unchanged. Spanish is offered at around 1s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., as to packing. Australian, 70 to 75 per cent., tins, 1s. 7½d.; drums, 1s. 7d.; 80 to 85 per cent., tins 1s. 9½d. per lb. ex store; higher prices for smaller lots; shipment, 70 to 75 per cent., tins, 1s. 6½d.; drums, 1s. 6d.; 80 to 85 per cent., tins, 1s. 8½d.; drums, 1s. 7½d. per lb., c.i.f.

GERANIUM.—A dull market. Algerian oil for shipment is cheap. Bourbon, spot, around 10s.; shipment, 9s. 3d., c.i.f. Algerian, spot, 1s. to 11s. 3d.; shipment, 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f.

HO (SHIV).—The position continues to be that spot supplies are untraceable, and there are no shipment offers.

JUNIPER BERRY.—Limited quantities are available on the spot at from 3s. 3d. to 4s. 3d. per lb., as to quantity and seller.

LAVENDER.—There is still no news of new crop yields or prices, and demand in the meantime is small.

LEMON.—The market continues dull, and shipment prices for Sicilian are slightly easier: Sicilian hand-pressed, spot (nominal), around 12s. 3d.; shipment, in coppers, around 11s. 9d. to 12s. per lb.

LEMONGRASS.—Quiet but still steady. Spot, from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb., as to quantity; shipment, 1s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f.

LIME.—There has been little or no inquiry, and prices are unchanged: West Indian, distilled, 13s. to 14s. per lb., as to quantity and packing.

MANDARIN.—Firmer forward: spot, 14s. 6d. to 15s. 8d. per lb., as to quality; shipment, 14s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

NEROLI.—Quoted on the spot at 16s. 1½d. to 17s. per oz., landed, for new-crop oil.

NUTMEG.—In fair demand and very steady: Dutch and American, from 5s. 4½d. to 5s. 9d. per lb., as to quantity.

ORANGE.—Average inquiry: prices steady: French Guinea, in drums*, around 2s. 9d. per lb., with re-packed oil in tins up to 3s. 3d.; shipment, round 2s. 4d.; parcels of blended oil at lower prices. Californian, spot, in small drums or two or more cases, 58 cents per lb., ex store.

PALMAROSA.—Quiet. Spot, around 9s. 3d. per lb.; shipment, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., as to seller.

PATCHOULI.—Some shipment quotations at 14s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., have been received: spot, Singapore, 11s. 6d.; Seychelles, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d.; Java, shipment, 9s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f.

PEPPERMINT.—There has been a fair demand for Japanese spot and near-afloat supplies. Spot, 4s. 4½d. to 4s. 6d., as to brand and seller; near-afloat, around 4s. 2d.; shipment, August-September, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f. Chinese, spot, 4s. 3d.; shipment, easier at 3s. 10½d. per lb., c.i.f.

PETITGRAIN.—Steady: spot, cases, 3s. 4½d. per lb.; shipment, upwards from 3s. 1½d. per lb., c.i.f., as to quantity.

ROSEMARY.—Spanish a shade easier on spot at 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d. per lb., as to quality and quantity. Tunis, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per lb., landed, as to quantity.

SANDALWOOD.—Genuine East Indian Mysore, in one-case lots, steady at 20s. 6d. per lb.; East Indian, produced outside the province of Mysore, 16s. 7½d. to 17s. 3d. per lb., c.i.f., in bulk quantities. English-made West Indian, 7s. 3d. per lb. Australian, steady at 15s. 3d. per lb. for 7-lb. tins, one case at 14s. 9d. and five cases at 14s. 6d. per lb.

SASSAFRAS.—Renewed inquiry has been experienced and prices quoted are very firm: best quality oil, 4s. to 4s. 3d. per lb., as to quantity. Other grades at less.

SPERMINT.—Quoted unchanged. U.S.P. oil, spot, about 9s. 1½d.; shipment, 8s. per lb., c.i.f.

SPIKE.—Inquiry is small but prices continue unchanged: Spanish quoted at 5s. to 5s. 6d. per lb., ex store, as to quantity and quality. Blended oils at cheaper rates.

VETIVER.—Bourbon quoted on the spot at 14s. od. to 15s. 3d.; Java easier at 10s. to 10s. 6d. per lb., as to quantity.

WORMSEED.—Steady. U.S.P. oil, spot, 10s. 7½d.; shipment, 10s. 4d. to 10s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f.

Correspondence

Correspondents may adopt an assumed name, but must in all cases furnish their real name and address to the Editor

"Quack" Medicines

SIR.—It is going to be very difficult indeed to draw a line between meritorious and worthless proprietary remedies. I as a chemist know that remedies, which to any elementary student of pharmacy must seem valueless, find appreciative users whom no arguments can shake out of their irrational faith. Auto-suggestion? Very likely; but suggestion plays a big and legitimate part in treatment, whether by quack remedy or at the hands of a qualified practitioner. It is questionable whether it is practical politics to do much more than is done at present—i.e., to prohibit the treatment of certain specified diseases by newspaper advertisement and to disallow the use of certain drugs in proprietary remedies. But it is probable that much might—and will—be done in the not distant future to curb the activities of "proprietors" by way of taxation—as soon as a practicable system of taxation can be devised by some clever Chancellor of the Exchequer. Neither should it be forgotten that doctors as well as the general public are the victims of the advertiser. I should say that, in about seven cases out of ten, the doctor ought to be able to write a better prescription, based on B.P. or B.P.C. ingredients, than is represented by a proprietary remedy. Doctors are too busy or too lazy to write prescriptions, and fob off their patients with a proprietary. And so, of course, dispensing has "gone to pot." It is odd and amusing that as the standard of qualification for pharmacists has been raised the skill demanded of them has fallen *pari passu*. But here is the silver lining. I do find that the public are appreciating more and more the genuine bottle of medicine as distinguished from the proprietary prescribed by the doctor. And the moral is that chemists must be counter prescribers—even at the cost of medical frowning. We know well enough when to prescribe and when not.

Yours truly,
R. CECIL OWEN.

CHESTER.
SIR.—When defining "quack" remedies (*C. & D.*, August 19, p. 227) the difficulty is that the term has been used somewhat loosely, and has become an omnibus title for all kinds of advertised nostrums. One would think that in spite of the mental suggestion so largely used in the advertisements for these preparations, the common sense of educated persons in these days would prove a sufficient antidote to any psychological tendency to suffer from imaginary ills. A moment's reflection should suffice one to realise that a chronic complaint cannot be cured in a few minutes or by one or two doses of some advertised remedy; yet there are many persons, not lacking in reasoning powers in other directions, who implicitly believe the statements they read in the case of proprietary medicines. A panel chemist has ample opportunities for gauging this state of mind; for insured persons often bring a prescription (say, for some tablets), and at the same time purchase a branded product of the same drug. If a cure is the result, it is in all probability put down to the patent article. One can think of instances where such promiscuous dosing might prove serious. Some proprietary products, it is true, have proved so reliable that similar formulas have been recognised as official; but it is perhaps unfortunate that the official product has differed from the original.

Faithfully yours,
ANTIQUACK (21/8).

Old Recipes

SIR.—I read with great interest the article "From an Old Recipe Book" (*C. & D.*, August 19, p. 223). Fresh cream was extensively used in the North of Scotland as an emollient as late as the nineteenth century, and may, not infrequently, be met with as a cosmetic there at the present day. I have known recovered smallpox patients whose skin was without blemish, and who attributed this to the fact that their skin, during the illness, was day and night "stroked" with a feather dipped in cream. I have not, however, heard of the addition of chalk. In a medical book printed about eighty years ago the application recommended for the purpose is caron oil. The same book gives as a fever drink a drachm or two of dilute nitric or sulphuric acid added to a pint of sweetened water, and adds that it is a very agreeable drink and, being cheap, is suitable for the poor.—Yours truly,

SCOTIA (22/8).

Miscellaneous Inquiries

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles nor to publish supposed formulas for them

G. C. S. (12/8).—PRESERVING BEECH LEAVES.—The usual solution is about equal parts of glycerin and water. The ends of the stems should be trimmed before being inserted in the above solution and allowed to remain there about six days. It is rather important that the leaves should not have turned too far before being preserved. If a weaker glycerin solution is used, it should not be below 1 in 3.

D. C. (21/8).—OTITIS MEDIA.—This is a recognised complication of nasal catarrh, when it is usually due to the infection having travelled up the Eustachian tube from the nasopharynx. In these cases, the treatments adopted include benzoin or other inhalations through the nose and mouth every two hours, ear instillations, such as carbolic acid (1-20), the injection of staphylococcus vaccines, etc. It is difficult for us to suggest any specific course of treatment to adopt in the absence of more exact details, and we would recommend you to seek medical advice if the condition is of long-standing or is very acute at any particular time.

"*Rusticus*" (21/8).—TOBACCO CURING.—We think that the following general notes on tobacco curing will be of practical assistance to you in your particular purpose. For drying and curing, fermentive and non-fermentive methods are employed. Leaves of larger size and heavy, sent to England and the Continent as "shipping tobacco," are the kinds subjected to the former method, whilst "sun-cured" and "yellow" are the kinds subjected to the latter. Fermentation or sweating the leaves is conducted in a barn or drying house heated to 170° F. for four or five days until the leaves become dry and brittle. They are allowed to absorb moisture, and then taken down and sorted. The leaves are made into bundles or "hands" of from ten to twenty-five leaves, and heaped together in a pile on the floor. Fermentation begins and gradually rises to 130°, when the pile is pulled to pieces and remade so as to obtain uniformity in colour and elasticity in the consistence of the leaf. The heat is kept under control, and slightly raised until the sap is expelled and the curing process finished.

W. D. C. (22/8).—WATER-PROOFING CEMENT WALLS.—The following solutions are used for this purpose:

Solution No. 1.—Calcium chloride 3 lb. in 1 gall. of water.

Solution No. 2.—Equal parts of concentrated solution of sodium silicate and hot water.

Apply solution No. 1 to the wall and follow by solution No. 2, which should be repeated if necessary.

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago

Reprinted from
"The Chemist and Druggist," August 24, 1889

Invention of the Soda Fountain

According to the "Druggist's Circular" the inventor of the modern soda fountain which plays so great a part in American pharmacies is a native of Bellerica, in Massachusetts, who had removed to Lowell, in the same State, where, in 1855, the brothers Amos W. and Gustavus D. Dowes were associated in business as retail druggists. Seeing the necessity of something more convenient to increase the trade in soda refreshments, the two "put their heads together," and after a short time announced to their customers that they had "ice-cream soda" on draught. The apparatus first constructed by them was a very crude invention, but in 1861 G. D. Dowes patented a shaver consisting of a galvanised iron box, with a propelling screw in each side arranged with bevel gears and operated by a crank on the outside of a large marble box containing the syrup cans, cooler, etc. G. D. Dowes soon after started the manufacture and sale of his apparatus in Boston. The demand for summer drinks was supplied mainly by lemonade and fermented hop beers. His efforts to improve this class of beverages led at once to carbonated drinks. His were the first marble soda-water fountains ever used in America, and they became so popular that he could not supply the demand for them. The first fountain made under his patents was used by A. W. Dowes & Co., at Lowell.

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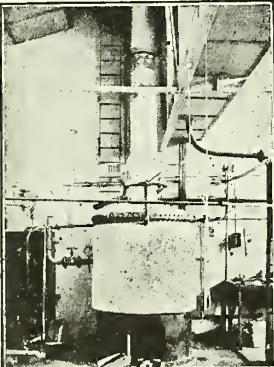
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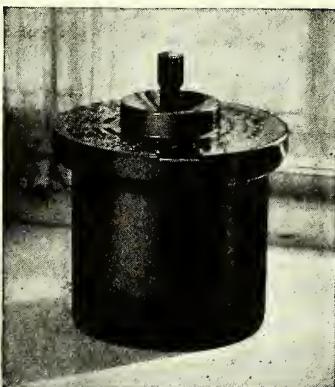
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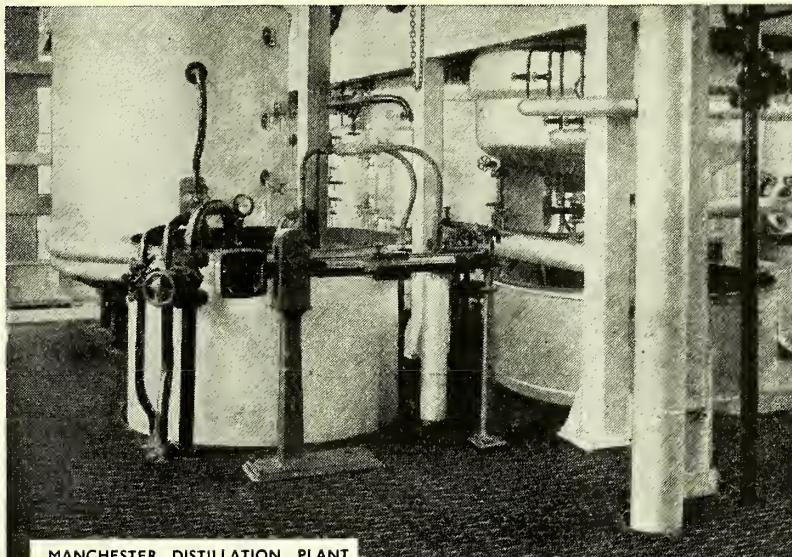
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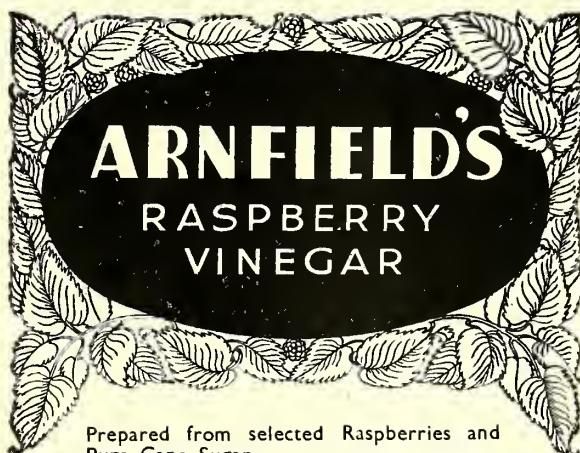
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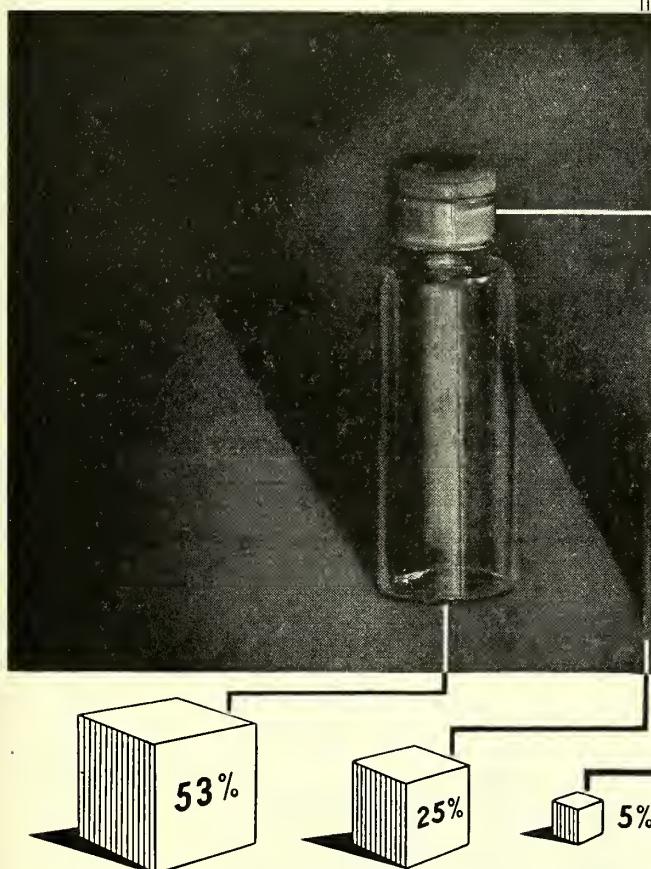
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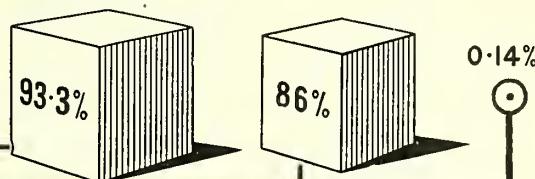
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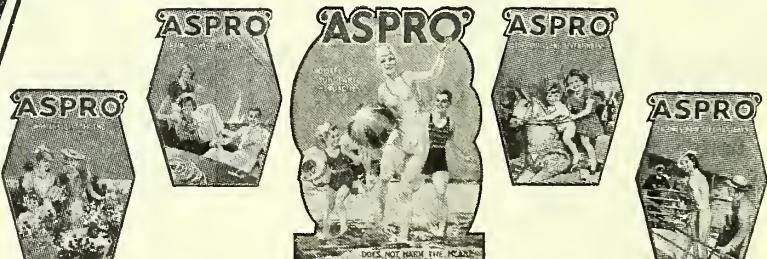
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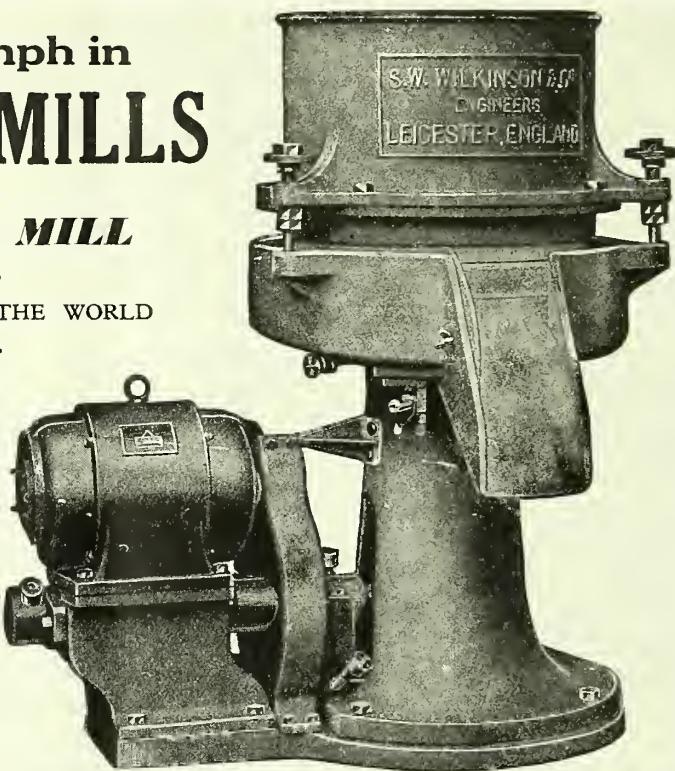
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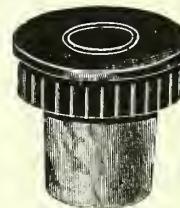
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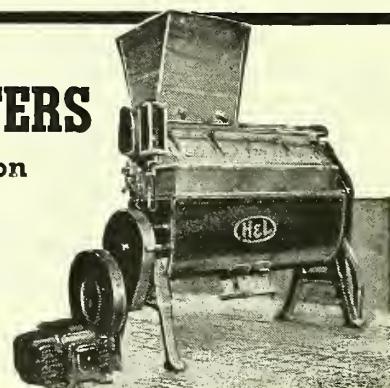
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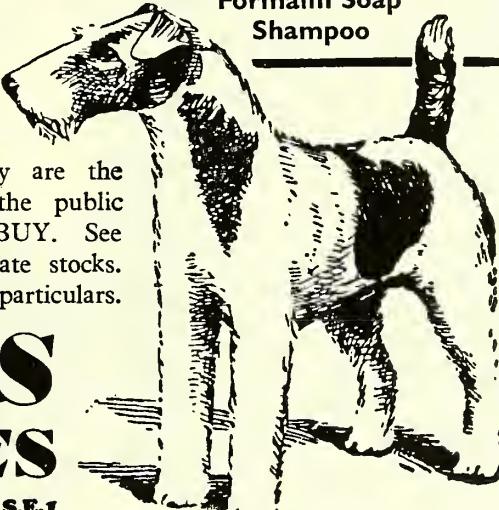
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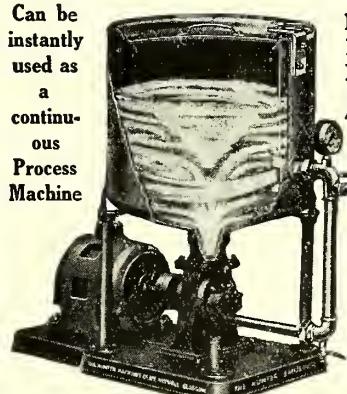
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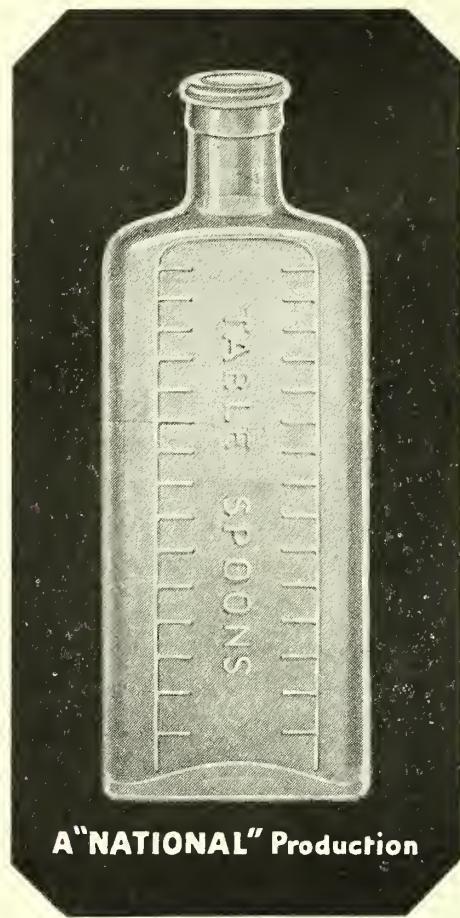
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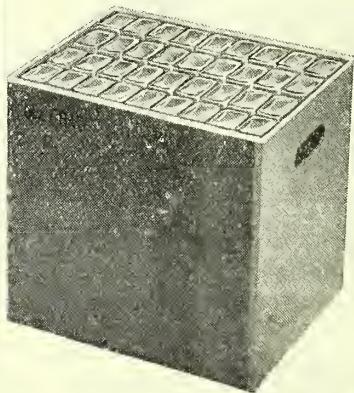
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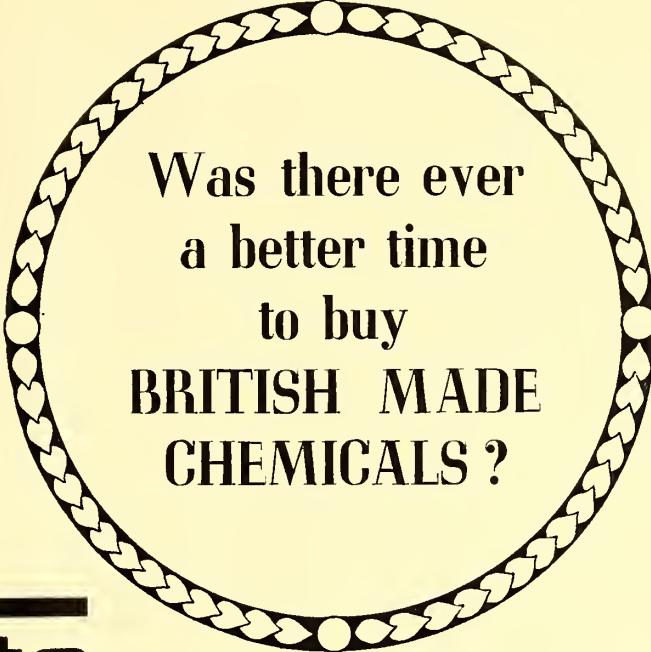
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